No. 908
Friday
4 Oct. '96

PRIVATE EYE

£1

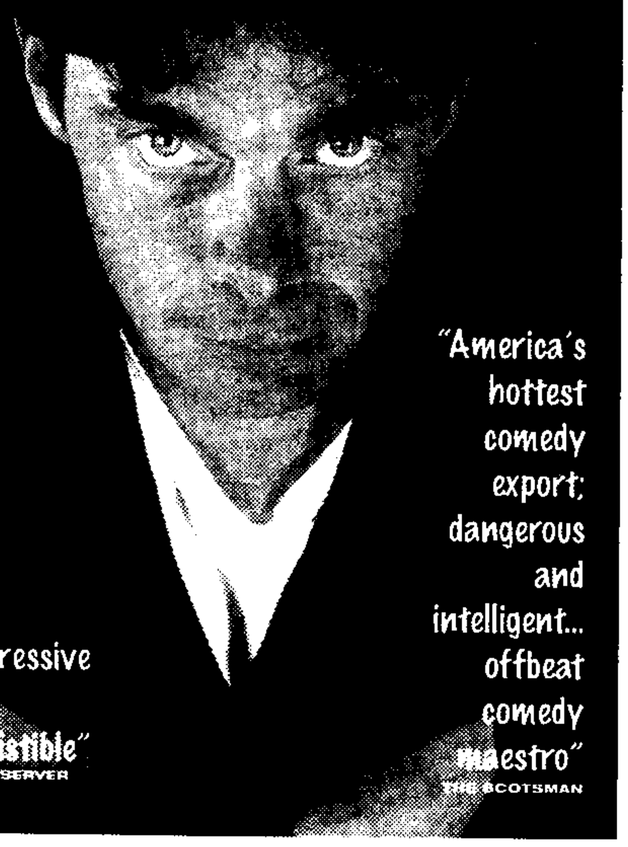
NEW LABOUR PLEDGE

ONLY £1 for OAP

MZA PRESENTS

RICH HALL

1996 PERRIER AWARD NOMINEE


"America's hottest comedy export; dangerous and intelligent... offbeat comedy maestro"
THE SCOTSMAN
"Impressive and irresistible"
THE OBSERVER

1996 UK TOUR

OCTOBER

THU 3 **COLCHESTER**
ARTS CENTRE **01206-577301**

FRI 4 **BOSTON**
BLACKFRIARS ARTS CENTRE
01205-363108

SUN 6 **LONDON**
PERRIER PICK OF THE FRINGE
HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE
0171-494 5558

THU 10 **BIRMINGHAM**
THE GLEE CLUB **0121-693 2248**

FRI 11 **KINGS LYNN**
ARTS CENTRE **01553-773578**

SAT 12 **CARDIFF**
CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE **01222-399666**

FRI 18 **SHEFFIELD**
CITY HALLS, MEMORIAL HALL
0114-273 5295/6

SAT 19 **STOCKPORT**
ROMILY FORUM **0161-430 6570**

THU 24 **KIRKCALDY**
ADAM SMITH THEATRE
01592-260498 / 412929

FRI 25 **GLASGOW**
OLD ATHENAEUM THEATRE
0141-332 2333

SAT 26 **EDINBURGH**
QUEENS HALL
0131-668 2019 / 667 7776

THU 31 **HIGH WYCOMBE**
HELLFIRE COMEDY CLUB **01494-512000**

NOVEMBER

FRI 1 **PORTSMOUTH**
WEDGEWOOD ROOMS **01705-863911**

SAT 2 **SOUTHAMPTON**
THE BROOK **01703-555366**

MON 4 **CHELTENHAM**
PILLAR TALK @ TOWN HALL
01242-227979

FRI 8 **LANCASTER**
NUFFIELD THEATRE **01524-594151**

SAT 9 **NEWCASTLE**
PLAYHOUSE THEATRE **0191-2305151**

SUN 10 **OLDHAM**
ROYTON ASSEMBLY HALL
0161-911 4072

WED 13 **AYLESBURY**
LAUGH INN COMEDY CLUB **01296-86009**

FRI 15 **READING**
21 SOUTH STREET **0118-959 1591**

SAT 16 **YORK**
BONDING WAREHOUSE **01904-623568**

SUN 17 **BRACKNELL**
SOUTH HILL PARK ARTS CENTRE &
WILDE THEATRE **01344-484123**

WED 20 **BERWICK**
THE MALTINGS **01289-330999**

THU 21 **HUDDERSFIELD**
THE CELLAR @ LAWRENCE BUCKLEY
THEATRE **01484-430528**

SAT 23 **MANCHESTER**
DANCEHOUSE THEATRE
0161-237 9753

SUN 24 **NOTTINGHAM**
JUST THE TONIC COMEDY CLUB
0973-421176

WED 27 **BRIGHTON**
PAVILLION THEATRE **01273-709709**

THU 28 **LIVERPOOL**
NEPTUNE THEATRE **0151-709 7844**

FRI 29 **HEMEL HEMPSTEAD**
OLD TOWN HALL **01442-242827**

SAT 30 **LEEDS**
WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE
0113-244 2111

DECEMBER

MON 2 **SOUTHEND ON SEA**
TGF CHURCHILLS **01702-617866**

GEFFEN NOTICE PRODUCTIONS & MZA PRESENTS

THE IRISH COMIC FROM AUSTRALIA

JIMEOIN

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL CRITICS COMEDY AWARD

1996 UK TOUR

OCTOBER

WED 2 **JERSEY**
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
P'OMME D'OR HOTEL **01534-873767**

THU 3 **LUTON**
ST GEORGE'S THEATRE **01582-21628**

FRI 4 **HEMEL HEMPSTEAD**
OLD TOWN HALL **01442-242827**

SAT 5 **HAYES**
BECK THEATRE **0181-561 8371**

WED 9 **AYLESBURY**
LAUGH INN COMEDY CLUB
01296-86009

THU 10 **CRAWLEY**
THE HAWTH **01293-553636**

SAT 12 **DUBLIN**
AMBASSADOR CINEMA & THEATRE
01-872 7000

SUN 13 **NORWICH**
THEATRE ROYAL **01603-630000**

MON 14 **OXFORD**
OXFORD COMEDY STAGE
01865-250099

FRI 18 **PORTSMOUTH**
WEDGEWOOD ROOMS **01705-863911**

SAT 19 **SOUTHAMPTON**
THE BROOK **01703-555366**

MON 21 **SOUTHEND ON SEA**
TGF CHURCHILLS **01702-617866**

WED 23 **CANTERBURY**
GULBENKIAN THEATRE **01227-455600**

THU 24 **BELFAST**
GRAND OPERA HOUSE **01232-241919**

FRI 25 **BELFAST**
GRAND OPERA HOUSE **01232-241919**

SAT 26 **BELFAST**
GRAND OPERA HOUSE **01232-241919**

SUN 27 **SLIGO**
HAWKS WELL THEATRE
-35-3(0)71-61518/26

TUE 29 **BATH**
FEZ COMEDY CLUB **01225-464241**

WED 30 **TAUNTON**
BREWHOUSE THEATRE & ARTS CENTRE
01823-283244

THU 31 **SWINDON**
ARTS CENTRE **01793-614837**

NOVEMBER

FRI 1 **SHEFFIELD**
CITY HALLS, MEMORIAL HALL
0114-273 5295/6

SAT 2 **LEEDS**
CITY VARIETIES **0113-243 0808**

SUN 3 **NOTTINGHAM**
JUST THE TONIC COMEDY CLUB
0973-421176

MON 4 **CHELTENHAM**
PILLAR TALK @ TOWN HALL
01242-227979

WED 6 **READING**
21 SOUTH STREET **0118-959 1591**

THUR 7 **BRIGHTON**
PAVILLION THEATRE **01273-709709**

FRI 8 **MANCHESTER**
DANCEHOUSE THEATRE
0161-237 9753

SAT 9 **NEWCASTLE**
PLAYHOUSE THEATRE **0191-230 5151**

SUN 10 **DERBY**
ASSEMBLY ROOMS **01332-255800**

WED 13 **ABERDEEN**
ARTS CENTRE **01224-641122**

THU 14 **PAISLEY**
ARTS CENTRE **0141-887 1010**

FRI 15 **KIRKCALDY**
ADAM SMITH THEATRE **01592-260498**

SAT 16 **EDINBURGH**
QUEENS HALL **0131-668 2019**

TUE 19 **PETERBOROUGH**
STAHL THEATRE **01832-273 930**

WED 20 **KINGS LYNN**
ARTS CENTRE **01553-773578**

THU 21 **IPSWICH**
CORN EXCHANGE **01473-215544**

FRI 22 **HIGH WYCOMBE**
THE SWAN THEATRE **01494-512000**

SAT 23 **BIRMINGHAM**
THE GLEE CLUB **0121-693 2248**

SUN 24 **BRACKNELL**
SOUTH HILL PARK ARTS CENTRE
01344-484123

TUE 26 **EXETER**
EXETER & DEVON ARTS CENTRE
01392-421111

WED 27 **CAMBRIDGE**
THE JUNCTION **01223-511511**

THU 28 **LEICESTER**
Y THEATRE **0116-255 6507**

FRI 29 **LOWESTOFT**
MARINA THEATRE **01502-573318**

SAT 30 **GLASGOW**
MITCHELL THEATRE **0141-287 5511**

DECEMBER

SUN 1 **LIVERPOOL**
EVERYMAN THEATRE **0151-709 4776**

WED 4 **PARIS**
LAUGHING MATTERS
00-33-1-480 60120

SAT 7 **BRISTOL**
ANSON ROOM, UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL
UNION **0117-929 9008**

SUN 8 **LONDON**
WIMBLEDON THEATRE **0181-540 0362**
TICKETMASTER **0171-344 4444**

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

PRIVATE EYE

Subscriptions Office,
Mortimer House,
230-236 Lavender Hill,
London SW11 1LE

PRICE: £17

(Europe & Eire £25
Airmail/rest of the world: £33)

I enclose cheque for £ .....
for a year's subscription (26 issues)
OR please charge ACCESS/VISA

Card number: .....

.....

Expiry date: .....

Please send magazines to:
(please print and use the postcode)

Name: .....

.....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

Cardholder's name and address if different from above:
(please print and use the postcode)

Name: .....

.....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

Overseas subscribers please note: payment must be made by International Money Order OR Banker's Draft in £ sterling drawn on London OR ACCESS/VISA

WHY NOT JUST–

DIAL - A - SUB
0171 228 0425
FAX - A - SUB
0171 924 3719

A SHOW OFF

The MALT

The MACALLAN®

CONGRATULATES PRIVATE EYE ON ITS 35TH BIRTHDAY AND ENTERS THE COMMEMORATIVE FORAY WITH A LIMITED EDITION SPECIAL BOTTLING, FLAMBOYANTLY ADORNED WITH AN ENAMELLED LABEL DESIGNED BY RALPH STEADMAN. THIS UNIQUE MACALLAN INCLUDES CASK NO.1580, BONDED MAY 1961 AND NO MORE THAN 5000 BOTTLES WILL LEAVE OUR DISTILLERY, SO ACT NOW TO STAKE YOUR CLAIM FOR THIS EXCLUSIVE EDITION OF *The* MALT

Telephone orders on: ***0141 958 0063***

Or send the coupon to Private Eye Bottling, The Macallan, PO Box 1824, Glasgow G3 7AS.

Please rush me an allocation of The Macallan Private Eye 35th Anniversary bottling forthwith.

Full Name _____

Preferred Title _____

Full Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Delivery Address (if different) _____

_____ Post Code _____

I would be delighted to receive (please tick box as appropriate):

❒ 1 x 70cl bottle @ £35.00 (inc. post and packing)

❒ 1 x 5cl miniature @ £6.95 (inc. post and packing)

❒ Please find enclosed my remittance (cheque or postal order) for £ _____

❒ Please debit my credit card with a single payment of £ _____

Access ❒ Visa ❒ MasterCard ❒ Switch ❒

My card number is | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Card expiry date | | | / | | | / | |

Name on card | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Should you wish to receive no further communication from The Macallan please tick this box ❒

This offer is available only to persons aged 18 or over. Please allow 21 days for delivery. This is a limited edition bottling and orders will be dealt with on a first come, first served basis. Should the unthinkable occur, you will be advised and any remittance will be returned.

TONY BLAIR
JOHN RENTOUL

'Well-written, thoroughly researched and informed by the balanced and subtle insights of a skilled journalist'
The Economist

'Likely to be the definitive study until well into the next political reign'
Ben Pimlott

'Fascinating' *Guardian*

Fully revised and updated edition out now in paperback

WARNER BOOKS

EXCLUSIVE GIFTS WITH A DIFFERENCE

Orchids Direct

When you need to send a gift that is a little bit different, *ORCHIDS DIRECT* have the answer. We specialise in the next day delivery of FRESH ORCHIDS, EXCELLENT CHAMPAGNES and DELICIOUS CHOCOLATES.

Our orchids are flown in from Thailand and safely gift boxed ensuring that they reach their destination in perfect condition. They come in a variety of stunning colours and last longer than most ordinary cut flowers.

OUR GIFTS INCLUDE:

❀ A bouquet of fresh orchids plus a miniature box of chocolates – approx 20 stems: £32, approx 30 stems: £40
❀ A bouquet of orchids together with a ½lb box of champagne truffles: £42
❀ Our bouquet of orchids complemented by a full size bottle of Moutardier champagne: £50
❀ Our combination: Orchids, Moutardier champagne plus a ½lb box of truffles: £60
❀ A single bottle of Moutardier Carte D'or champagne, gift boxed: £27

Ordering is simple — just phone **Freecall 0500 414120** with your credit card details and message.
Order lines are open until 8.00pm Mon-Friday.
Your gift will be hand delivered the following day on all orders received before 5.00pm.
Order online at http://www.orchids.co.uk

Visit the monks of Fuggle Abbey.

SEE the Waxworks in an old shed at the back of the brewery and imagine what life could have been like if there were monks and an abbey.

FUGGLES
a brand NEW old fashioned Ale

6.6% BY VOLUME ☆

EASY DRINKING

WITH NEW BOTTLE WIDGET

Gnome

Labour Support Collapses

THE headline in today's Daily Gnomograph could not be clearer. A new opinion poll commissioned for the Gnomograph has delivered a damning verdict on Blair. His New Labour party has a dismal 54% support compared to the Conservatives' buoyant 27%. Blair thus faces his annual conference with only double the rating of his rivals and leads the Tories only by the slimmest margin of all-their-votes-over-again.

This surely marks the end of Blair's Downing Street dreams but in case anyone should think that my newspaper is in some way biased I can only point them to the rest of the press as witnessed in our new regular feature.

IN TODAY'S FEATHER PAPERS

● The Sunday Times gives details of a sensational New Labour Party split following an interview with Robin Cook. Cook savaged Blair in an astonishing outburst which read: "We must not forget the needs of the poor which of course we won't especially Tony who is a very compassionate man."

● The Daily Mail on the other hand reveals that John Prescott has stabbed his leader in the back. Prescott lambasted Blair, calling him "an outstanding leader who has my full support in everything he does".

● The Daily Express took a different line. "Blunkett Silence Row" said its main headline and revealed that David Blunkett's week-long silence and failure to give any interviews backing Blair spelled catastrophe for the Labour leader.

● "Straw Horror" leads the Sun, revealing that under a Labour government Jack Straw would seize the post of Secretary of State for Employment given him by Tony Blair and pose a fresh threat to Labour's increasingly tottering leadership.

● The Evening Standard reveals that one of Tony Blair's closest modernising colleagues is called Harriet which is a name nobody likes.

● The Daily Star meanwhile reveals that Sharon Tasty, a 23-year-old Beckenham prostitute *(surely 'model'? Ed)* finds the cold autumn snap very chilly in her underwear. She blames Tony Blair.

QED I think?

Endeavour Strobes
pp Lord Gnome
Gnome House
London W1

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

£17 per annum. Europe and Eire £25.
Airmail – rest of world £33.
Cheques/POs to Private Eye. Access/Visa.

PRIVATE EYE SUBSCRIPTIONS
Mortimer House, 230-236 Lavender Hill, London SW11 1LE
Tel: 0171-228 0588. Fax: 0171-924 3719.
Email: eyesubs@cix.compulink.co.uk

EDITORIAL
6 Carlisle Street, London W1V 5RG.
Tel: 0171-437 4017. Fax: 0171-437 0705.
Email: strobes@cix.compulink.co.uk
WWW:http://www.intervid.co.uk/intervid/eye/gateway.html

COLOUR SECTION

SHOCK!

HOW incredibly disappointing. Former trade minister Neil Hamilton and parliamentary lobbyist Ian Greer have caved in at the last minute in their "cash for questions" libel action against the *Guardian*. The trial of the decade will not now take place — which is good news for the Conservative Party conference, which can now go ahead without most of the main speakers having to appear in court.

The Hamilton/Greer collapse apparently followed the disclosure of certain payments by Harrods owner Mohamed Fayed to Greer which Hamilton seemed to know nothing about. The two then decided that they wanted separate legal representation, and this would have involved a completely new set of solicitors, barristers and fees. The whole thing fell apart at the weekend, and the 21 Tory MPs who have been linked to Greer in documents released by Tory central office for the case, will now breathe a sigh of relief.

Two unnamed ministers are members of this select group and were desperate to avoid being identified in court. Now no one will ever know that they are Michael Portillo, secretary of state for defence; and Gerald Malone, health minister.

Most disappointing of all is the fact that we will never see the tape of the Roger Cook "sting" programme which was so promptly censored when it came near to exposing Greer's connections with high-flying politicians. The showing of the film at last in public was anticipated as a great moment in the trial, as it was disclosed only after a fight by Central Television.

Another such moment would have been the evidence of Michael Heseltine, who was looking forward with great glee to the prospect of putting the boot into Hamilton. It was Heseltine who confronted the former corporate affairs minister with his embarrassing former connections with the Butte Mining company — and the fact that Butte, along with its associate companies, was being investigated by Hamilton's own department.

It's almost too much to bear...

ROGER SALMON, rail franchising director, seems to believe that taxpayers rejoice at greater public spending.

Each time a rail franchise is let, Salmon trumpets the deal as being good news for taxpayers. Yet a parliamentary reply given by transport minister John Watts shows that the first seven franchises awarded to private companies are requiring £20 million *more* in subsidy for their first year than the shadow franchises they took over. Those shadow franchises themselves were eating up *double* the subsidy BR required to operate its network.

Many taxpayers would agree to more of their money being put into rail if it resulted in new trains, lower fares, better tracks and stations, better customer care and improved safety, reliability and punctuality. But Mr Salmon must be the only taxpayer in Britain to rejoice that more than double the subsidy is being paid to run the railway in a fashion that is generally inferior to before.

AMERICAN computer giant EDS, which runs the Child Support Agency's disastrous IT system (see *Eyes passim*), has been awarded another government contract: this time by the lord chancellor's department.

EDS won the deal after entering a bid thought to be half that of rival companies Sema Group and Siemens Nixdorf. The contract, worth around £25 million, is to run the local county courts system, a case management system only currently piloted in six courts, and the crown court electronic support system and the summons production centre.

Those with long memories may recall another astonishingly low bid by EDS for a government contract: the Inland Revenue contract to support self-assesment, which was won by EDS after a very low bid and is now running over budget by £263 million!

WHEN the Tories began selecting candidates last year for their forthcoming general election slaughter, the ASDA supermarket chain announced the creation of 2,000 new jobs.

Despite this, the company's smooth and highly paid chief executive Archie Norman, who was trying to find a seat to contest, failed to get past any of the formidable selection committees.

Last month, however, Archie had a lucky break. Sir Patrick Mayhew's decision to retire — basking in the success of John Major's peace process — left a spare safe seat up for grabs in Tunbridge Wells, a constituency not even the Tories can lose next spring.

By an amazing coincidence, just before the selection meeting ASDA announced the creation of 3,000 new jobs — a triumph for Tory economic policy which received heavy media coverage — and, more importantly, cannot have hindered the nomination as prospective parliamentary candidate for Tunbridge Wells of one A. Norman.

Malcontents, however, point out that this year's announcement sounded remarkably like an exaggerated version of last year's, and that the "new jobs" — many part-time — are being created simply as part of the normal store development programme. But one place that won't see this employment miracle is leafy Tunbridge Wells: its true blue local council won't give planning permission for ugly superstores, so there'll never be anything as common as an ASDA in Archie's new constituency.

● *Hallo! to Fergiana, Norma and Terry* 7
● *Birt and BA* 10
● *Trevvies* 11
● *Letter from Israel* 15
● *Adam Phillips' Monogamy* 24

"Funny — she didn't say this would happen..."

Street Of Shame

EYE TOLD YOU SO...

"Indeed, the inspiration for Betrayal *was not his affair with Lady Antonia, I can reveal, but his hitherto unpublicised affair with Joan Bakewell in the 1960s."*

— Grovel, writing about England's greatest living playwright, Dame Harold Pinter, on 28 September 1990 — just six years before last week's earth-shattering "revelation".

WHY oh why has *Daily Mail* editor Paul Dacre suddenly decided to dye his hair a dazzling shade of jet-black? Since the *Eye* posed the question two weeks ago, friends and well-wishers have become increasingly alarmed about the possible reasons for his mid-life makeover.

Dacre's old colleague Richard Addis, now editor of the *Daily Express*, was so concerned that he inserted an extra paragraph into an *Express* feature about male vanity. "For the more mature male, there's the ever increasing popularity of a touch of dye to turn back the tide of grey," he wrote. "It may be a sign of vanity but it's more likely to be a sign of tragedy."

For *Mail* hacks, it is now the sole topic of conversation. When the police found a huge IRA arms cache last week, the *Mail*'s report mentioned *en passant* that the suspected terrorists had been tracked by British intelligence, "even though one disguised himself by dyeing his hair". Although this brief reference was buried deep in the story, a night-sub at the paper clearly thought it deserved more prominence. Hence the large headline across most of page two: "Dyed Hair for the Dummy Run".

As if that weren't enough, Dacre is now facing another poaching expedition by the wily Addis, who has already forced him to award lavish pay-rises to several *Mail* hacks to stop them defecting to the *Express*. Addis's latest wheeze is to offer a £500,000 salary to the *Mail*'s Glenda-in-Chief, Lynda Lee-Potter — safe in the knowledge that Dacre will feel obliged to match the offer, thus making another large dent in Associated Newspapers' profits.

JONATHAN Fenby, who rose to the editorship of the *South China Morning Post* after a triumphant year editing the *Observer* for the late Peter Preston, is adding to his laurels in Hong Kong where he is in the running for the Order of Tiananmen Square (Brown Nose Class) once the colony rejoins the motherland next year.

Fenby assumed the editorship after Rupert Murdoch, worried lest a wilfully misplaced comma might upset the highly democratic Chinese government in Peking and put at risk his business interests in the Middle Kingdom, sold the *Post* to a Singaporean Chinese called Kwok, who is well in with that paladin of press freedom, former Chinese prime minister Lee Kuan Yew.

Kwok, who is rumoured to have bought out the Dirty Digger at the behest of comrades in Peking, sought the editor he wanted and has not been disappointed by the fearless Funboy. Funboy has made sure that not a scintilla has been printed that would upset the heirs of Mao and Chou En Lai.

On the eve of the anniversary of the Tiananmen massacre, *Post* staff were told that the word "massacre" was not one the newspaper recognised in the context of Tiananmen.

In his search for truth, Funboy has also made it clear he has no time for failed Tory MPs like John Patten, the governor of Hong Kong, and other such lickspittles of capitalism. He reserves his respectful admiration for the authorities in Peking who have wisely never felt the need to submit themselves to elections like the misguided Patten.

THE uncultured oiks of the *Daily* and *Sunday Telegraphs* are being educated in the ways of café society — thanks to their canteen employees.

After newspaper staff began shunning their own cafeteria for a chicer coffee bar at the foot of the dreadful Canary Wharf tower, Telegraph managers decided they had better jazz up their own foodie image. So they have launched Café B, an upmarket coffee venture they hope will be more in keeping with the paper's pseudo-sophisticated image.

Menus listing the "speciality coffees" have been sent to all staff; but just in case the wine sodden hacks can't pronounce any of the names, café staff have helpfully described the beverages phonetically. Hence staff can choose "Caffe Latte (La-tay)"; or "Cappucino (Cap-uh-chee-no)"; or even "Espresso (Eh-ss-preh-so)".

Just in workers from the shires are still confused, each item comes with an explanation. Thus espresso is "a small but potent coffee served black". And so on. However, to stop the paper's staff being overwhelmed with these grand offerings, the caff also advises that lower prices are available "if you bring your own mug".

WHEN Andrew "Brillo Pad" Neill edited the Britain section of the *Economist*, he was prone to fire off angry letters to journalists who used *Economist* material without permission or acknowledgment.

These days the former *Sunset Times* editor writes in the *Daily Mail* under the optimistic heading "Andrew Neill — The Voice Of Controversy". On Monday 23 September, he noted that "Labour's more moderate transport team had begun to backtrack on its plans to restore a "publicly-owned, publicly-accountable" railway system".

It must have been a coincidence that the *Economist* had earlier written: "Labour is beginning to backtrack on its commitment to restore 'a publicly owned, publicly accountable railway'." But then Neill also noted that "the 'misery line' between London and Tilbury" will "replace nearly all its clapped-out rolling stock before the end of the decade". Or as the *Economist* had put it: "The 'misery commuter line' from Fenchurch Street in London to Tilbury" will "replace two-thirds of its existing 40-year-old rolling stock by 1999".

And so it went on, both the *Economist* and Neill noting the marvellous steps made by Chiltern railways to cut its fares between London and Birmingham; both being impressed by the west coast mainline improvements between London and Manchester and by the plans to buy high speed trains for the East coast mainline owned by Sea Containers.

JUST FANCY THAT!

"A whole industry has been developed to make it increasingly improbable that children like Domenica Lawson will be allowed to live. The National Health Service advises all mothers-to-be over 35 to undergo medical procedures which extract fluid from around the foetus, which is then subjected to chromosonal analysis... To the extent that this policy is more than half-baked eugenics, it is, to take the most charitable interpretation, based on the utilitarian idea that the child born with a physical or mental handicap will be an unhappy person, so unhappy that he or she would have been better off dead... Yet one or two acquaintances have still asked us, 'Didn't you have the tests?' My wife says she thinks it will be difficult to remain friends with such people."

— Dominic Lawson on his Down's Syndrome baby, *Sunday Telegraph*, 16 June 1995

"With hindsight, would Rosa rather have had the amniocentesis test, which would have detected Down's Syndrome?... 'Actually, I did have it with Savannah because my early blood tests indicated a very high chance of Down's Syndrome. Savannah was clear. Then with Domenica I feel that if I had known, at least it would have given me a chance to prepare myself... I would like to have known'."

— Interview with Rosa Monckton, wife of Dominic Lawson, *You* magazine, 29 September 1996

TABLOID fascination with the Sarah Ferguson story meant readers even had to wade through reports of her attending the opening of a new nightclub in Beijing owned by Hong Kong's David Tang.

The highly democratic China Club (membership: £10,000), positioned less than a mile from Tiananmen Square, attracted the usual Fergie-style Eurotrash; and Annabel Heseltine, daughter of the deputy prime minister, duly filed a whole page of drivel on the event for the *Evening Standard*.

Sadly, the Prince of Wales's former adviser Belinda Harley, who was also at the party, omitted to inform her organ, the *Daily Express*, that she would be partying with Fergie — so it took the office days to track her down and fire her.

No doubt she will invoke the clause in her £80,000, two-day a week contract that stipulates she does not have to write about the royals. Since La Freebiana is no longer in that category, it is all very embarrassing for Harley.

REFERENDUM PARTY NEWS

SIR Jammy Goldsmith's briefing session for more than 100 Referendum party faithful was held recently at the swanky Park Lane Hotel. Marc Gordon (see last *Eye*) was prominent among the stewards and hangers-on. Gordon is certainly experienced at keeping order at meetings. Like fellow Goldsmith groupie Doug Smith, Gordon was once a flunkey of the infamous David Hart, known as "barmy" Hart even to his supporters.

Attending the national Young Conservatives conference in 1988, Gordon was instructed to keep "wets" out of a Hart-sponsored YC rally held at the end of Eastbourne pier. When YC moderates arrived to try to distribute leaflets outside the rally, Gordon seized their papers and threw them into the sea, whereupon the enraged "wets" knocked Gordon to the deck.

But Goldsmith is trying to engender a broad church image in his new party, so at the Park Lane dinner he gamely opened a debate inviting free-ranging questions. At this a woman stood up and said: "I'm concerned that our party is overwhelmingly white, male, middle class and middle-aged."

"Well what's wrong with that," a voice bellowed back as the other guests guffawed and stamped their approval of this enlightened heckling. The woman struggled to be heard as she replied "That attitude is exactly what is wrong with our organisation."

Her heckler was one Sam Swerling, former chairman of the Monday Club, who was expelled from the club but was rapidly allowed back in when he began to sue the shirts off the backs of his impoverished club colleagues. Goldsmith waffled around this flashpoint and with plenty of free food and drink inside them the assembled freeloaders departed merrily.

● *Politics: See page 8.*

"I'm afraid, Mr and Mrs Sprules, Patrick's continually playing stupid practical jokes"

HALLO! THE HEARTWARMING COLUMN

HALLO! *WHY oh why does everyone still believe that charming Tory party chairman Brian Mawhinney is a talentless philistine without an original idea in his head?*

After all, Dr MaWhinney's "New Labour, New Danger" wheeze, with those devilish eyes, is the cleverest political slogan since "The Reds Are Coming". And even more cleverly, it's an ingenious artistic "borrowing", as my picture shows, of the RCA record sleeve for the obscure but highly regarded modern composer Alfred Schnittke's opera of Faust.

Dr Mawhinney, however, currently has far more dangerous enemies to attack than the Labour party: like his own chancellor of the exchequer, Kenneth Clarke. The witty Mawhinney has been amusing colleagues at central office with a new slogan for next week's Tory party conference in Brighton: "New Chancellor, New Chance".

HALLO! THE prime minister, I discover, will come leaping out of his tight corner, fighting fit for next week's Tory party conference. Norma has clearly taken John in hand and put him on a diet — devised by none other than TV's lovely Dr Miriam Stoppard.

The result, alas, seems to have scrambled the prime minister's brain. For when a devotee from Bristol wrote to him earlier this month, seeking copies of two recent speeches, he received in return Major's six-page address to the Newspaper Society, and — far more fascinating than the requested "Future of Europe" speech — six pages of Dr Miriam Stoppard's diet book.

Dr Miriam gives lots of tips ("eat more natural diuretics"), but, above all, reveals how to lose 7lbs in 7 days. Will John turn up to conference looking like Lord Lawson ? That promise, as Norma knows, would be an election winner!

Gay pressure groups have placed the condom boxes in the area in an effort to promote safe sex.

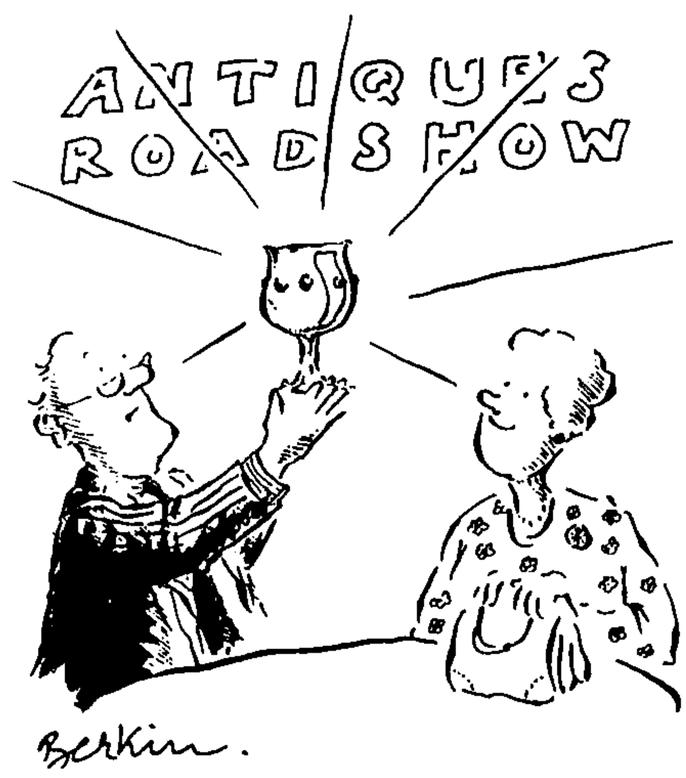
'The condoms are placed in metal boxes with little lights which last for 12 hours you can buy in any camping shop.

Daily Mail

HALLO! DEAR David Montgomery recently cashed in £608,000 of the share options he craftily negotiated as chief executive of the Mirror Group: all on top of the £780,000 he cashed six months ago. Gosh, is the puritanical Ulsterman off to the fleshpots of Las Vegas? Alas, this sum may be more akin to the alimony he will have to pay estranged wife, Heidi.

Meanwhile, I fear "Rommel" may have sacrificed his marriage all for zilch. After the Earl of Woolton discovered his wife's affair with Montgomery (see *Eye* 902), the Earl and former Deb of the Year Sophie decided to try and "make a go of it" for the children. Sophie and Simon, I learn, have just been hunting together in the Highlands, with an alarming show of marital solidarity.

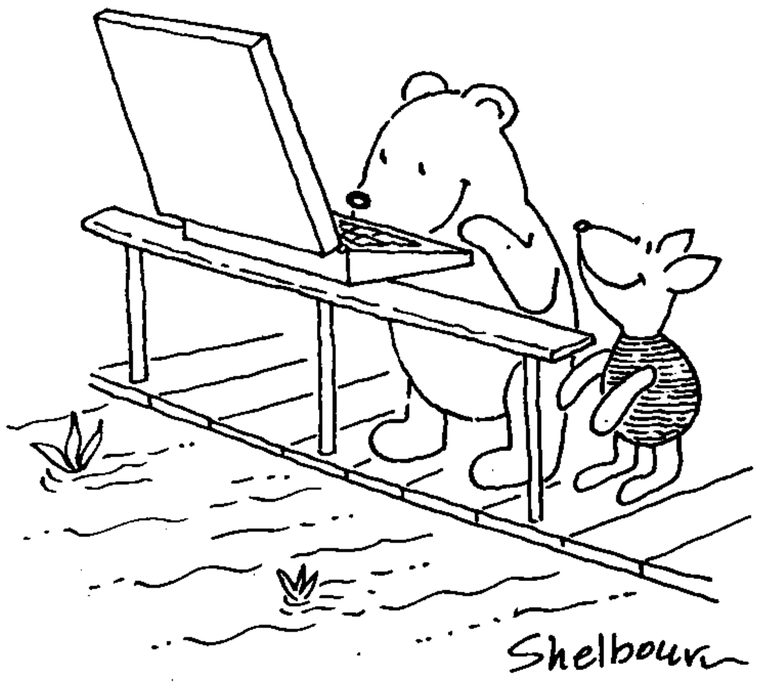
Almost makes one sorry for the poor, or rather fantastically rich, "Rommel"...



"You'll be pleased to hear that it's the Holy Grail. Have you got it insured?"

HALLO! *TERRY Major Ball, retired garden gnome salesman and delightfully Pooterish older brother of the less famous John, faced a terrible dilemma which has been keeping him awake nights: first the Daily Mail offered £250 for a "Major Ball" weekly diary; then the Daily Express offered £400.*

Terry thought of a brilliant solution: he had to go to Downing Street (a rare occurrence) to show little brother the wedding photos of daughter Fiona, taken earlier this month at Sutton register office in the presence of John and Norma. Terry would seize the opportunity of this brief visit with our brilliant prime minister, to ask his advice. The solution? The Daily Mail. What a shrewd pair they are !



"Look," said Pooh. "I've worked out how to play Pooh Sticks on the Internet"

HALLO! **DESPERATE to stop the (apparently true) stories told in the racy biography by her ex-chum Allan Starkie, the Duchess Fergiana has won a temporary injunction stopping publication.**

Starkie's book details Fergie's toe-sucking encounters with greasy Texan Johnny Bryan, and the injunction has cost her £500,000. How on earth is Britain's brokest woman paying for it?

Reliable sources in palace circles tell me she has put up her jewellery as collateral. The sacrifice will be justified if it gives Fergie's own forthcoming (royal family-approved) autobiog a clear run at the pre-Christmas bookshops — but imagine selling off the royal family silver!

HALLO! I FEAR for the education of young Prince William at Eton, where the rich young men are rapidly becoming just as yobbish as the rest of us.

Just the other day a sixth-former at the school was waiting for his brother to ring on the communal telephone. When it rang, a snooty voice at the other end demanded to speak to Lord Freddie Windsor, eldest son of Princess Michael of Kent.

When the upstart Etonian demanded to know who was speaking, the voice said haughtily: "Its Princess Michael of Kent." Poor Princess Pushy must have been shocked by the Etonian's response. "Yeah! An' I'm the fucking Queen of Sheba," came the reply.

HALLO! *FOR some reason I have been sent this charming photograph of a prizegiving ceremony at Baverstock Grant Maintained School. It pictures (above) an unidentified older man handing out awards to pupils and the reader wishes me to reproduce it in my column. Of course!*

HALLO! **TO Huddersfield with popular-as-ever home secretary Michael Howard, who is on a whirlwind four-day tour of seven police forces and 17 towns.**

Michael relishes the chance to "chat to bobbies on the beat", even if in Huddersfield it is sometimes hard to understand what on earth they are saying.

Still, there was no mistaking his reaction when confronted by a wall of graffiti with "Howard Out! Howard Must Go!" daubed crudely across it in paint. West Yorkshire's red-faced chief constable Keith Hellawell had to explain hurriedly that it was not aimed at our gifted home secretary — but at Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds football club manager who was ousted shortly afterwards.Of course it was !

'The Marquesa'

WHEN the Labour party asked Geoff Atkinson, producer of Rory Bremner's show, to submit gags for Tony Blair's conference speech at Blackpool, Atkinson was suitably outraged. "You would have thought this was one speech he could write for himself," he said.

Strange, then, that the Bremner team includes, in an advisory role, one Derek Draper, former personal assistant to spin-doctor Peter Mandelson and keen "new" Labourite insider.

One would have thought Mr Atkinson could write his own "new" Labour jokes.

THE saga of "new" Labour and "lefty" Liz Davies, barred from selection as a parliamentary candidate in Leeds North East, appears to be over now she has accepted an out of court settlement in her libel action against three fellow Islington councillors.

But how were the three, Tal Michael, Phil Kelly and James Purnell, able to fund their defence after the Labour Party withdrew its offer of help under threat of legal action for the misuse of party funds?

Step forward Anthony Julius, of Mischon de Reya and Diana, Princess of Wales divorce fame, whom party leaders persuaded to waive his £20,000 fees and act for the Blairites *gratis*. Julius, a T.S. Elliot bore, has mysteriously acquired the nickname "Lord Anthony of the Wasteland". Whatever can it mean?

IN HIS moving speech on the care of the elderly at the Liberal Democrats' party conference, Dr Peter Brand, the party's candidate in the highly marginal Isle of Wight, made no reference to the fact that a company which he chaired is being prosecuted for what a presiding magistrate called "a very serious breach" of regulations in an old people's home.

Dr Brand, who is also an Isle of Wight councillor, was chairman of Islecare, a company set up to take charge of 21 residential old people's homes formerly owned by the council. The council's inspection team found that a manager at one of the homes, Polars, had been dodging the regulations by failing to provide the necessary staff for one hour a night for 113 nights.

Dr Brand admits there was breach of regulations, but insists none of the directors knew about it. "We have now sacked the manager responsible," he says, pointing out that Islecare was a voluntary company, and neither he nor any other director was paid.

OLD LEFTIES gathering for a week of mourning trooped along to Blackpool's "Pleasure Dome" for the ritual and distinctly unpleasurable meeting of the Socialist Campaign Group.

Here delegates were "given the line" by battle hardened veterans of the Bennite era. But unbeknown to the assembled comrades, the "Pleasure Dome" had been blacked by the trade unions for refusing to allow its employees union membership. Ironically, just about the only pro-union policy that the "dear leader" has not jettisoned is the commitment which allows employees to do just that. The comrades were lucky not to face enraged pickets as they trooped out of the monstrous meeting place.

THE road carrying "impartial" BBC political staff to Tory central office will require additional lanes if traffic continues at current volumes.

Former Beeb employee Cerl Evans has been separated from his job in the Smith Square press office to be replaced by Anthony Gordon-Lennox, formerly a producer at the corporation's Tory — oops! — political unit at Millbank.

WHEN Chester City fans queued to watch their team play Scunthorpe at home last month, there was great excitement when the tannoy announced that at half time Dickie Bird (a Scunthorpe supporter) and Gyles Brandreth (local MP and apparently a Chester City fan) would be making presentations.

Half time came — but there was no ridiculous-jumper wearing MP to be seen. Bird did an admirable job of the prize-giving alone. But then another message crackled over the tannoy: "Mr Brandreth has got lost on his way to the ground, but he hopes to make it to a fixture in the near future."

The loud jeers of fans were naturally for their footballing opponents — not for their cuddly Conservative MP.

SOCIALIST beardie MP Paul Flynn displayed his usual lack of tact when approached by the Marine Conservation Society.

It wanted the Newport West MP to support Beachwatch, a campaign to clean rubbish from British shorelines, and he gave campaigners short shrift: "Your aims have little relevance to my constituency and I find it a disincentive to my supporting you the fact you have Prince Charles as your president. Are you a serious organisation?"

ULSTER Unionists are trying to improve their image on the mainland and have opened the London-based Ulster Information Office (UIO).

Its director is none other than hardline Unionist David Burnside, the public relations man who was at British Airways during its dirty tricks campaign against Virgin. Nor have his ruthless PR tactics deserted him in the political arena: he has already faced censure in Northern Ireland after he used the government-backed Northern Ireland Partnership's (NIP) membership directory to send out fundraising letters for the UIO.

The strictly non-political NIP tries to bring investment to Northern Ireland. Burnside had described himself as a "long-serving member of the NIP" in his fundraising mailshot, and added that the UIO was open to "all who support the union regardless of party affiliation". NIP members were understandably furious Burnside had linked the Unionists with their organisation, but the UIO remained unrepentant.

The London office manager of the UIO is one Patricia Campbell, a Catholic Unionist who first appeared in the Unionist spotlight after working for then party leader James Molyneux in the Commons. She had applied for a job in the Belfast press office but was rejected. Instead the job went to a Protestant man who wasn't a party member.

Campbell believed she had been passed over because she was Catholic and made her anger public: firing off press releases about anti-Catholic bias in the party and threatening to take the Unionists to Ulster's Fair Employment Agency on the ground of unlawful religious discrimination. But before this could happen everything went quiet. Then — hey presto! — Ms Campbell reappeared, hired by the new London UIO and the wily Burnside.

LORD RAYLEIGH's Dairy has been delivering milk to people in Essex for more than 100 years. But after 17 years of free enterprise Tory rule, the dairy — once Britain's biggest private milk producer and retailer — recently went into receivership.

Surprisingly there has been no statement from the present Lord Rayleigh, a Tory peer, about

government policy on the dairy industry. Nor has there been a hoot from milord's brother-in-law, Bernard Jenkin, the Tory MP for Colchester North.

Ironically the dairy and its 400-odd jobs have been bought by a Danish company, MSD Foods — much to the embarrassment of arch Eurosceptic Jenkin.

ALTHOUGH Neil Kinnock's former press secretary Patricia Hewitt has been adopted as the Labour candidate for Leicester West, her election to parliament is by no means a foregone conclusion.

Labour activists from six wards in the constituency — out of a total of nine — have decided not to work for her during the general election following Tony Blair's appeal for members to work in key marginal seats (which Leicester West is not).

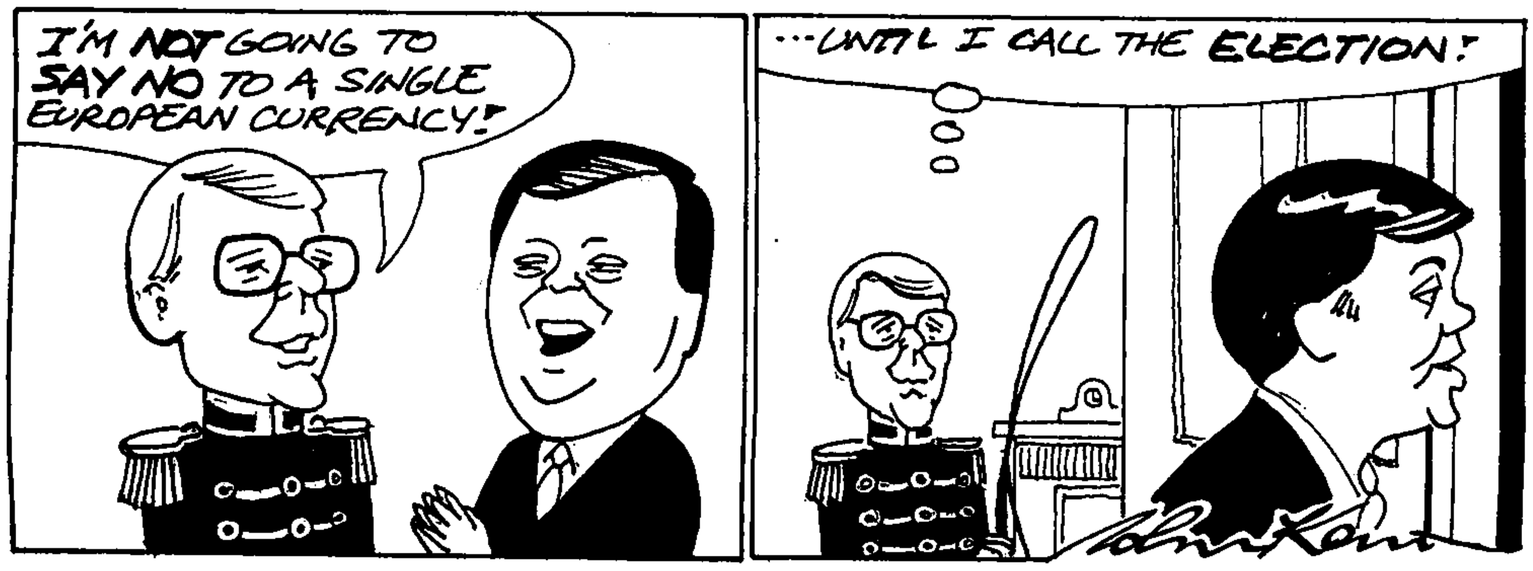
Their reluctance to canvass on her behalf may have rather more to do with deep disgruntlement at the way she was chosen. In the weeks before the selection, her supporters let it be known that she had the blessing of Walworth Road. Then, following the death of one of her rivals, Cllr Paul Sood, she managed to grab his votes as well by turning up at the memorial meeting and reading out a message of condolence from Tony Blair — even though the sitting member, Greville Janner, and the leader of the city council, Peter Soulsby, were both present on stage and better placed to deliver such a message without giving any candidate an unfair advantage.

Hewitt has always been a nimble operator. When she ran the National Council for Civil Liberties in the late 1970s and early 1980s, she was a fiery leftist. When Kinnock became leader, she hastily transformed herself into a passionate centrist. Now, under the Blair regime, she is a born-again right-winger.

In a four-page manifesto issued to Labour members in Leicester before her election, Hewitt boasted of her deep commitment to the NHS — which "must be restored as a comprehensive, truly *national* service, free at the point of use and safe from the Conservative's [*sic*] creeping privatisation."

Wisely, she forgot to add that she was also deputy chairman of Health Care 2000, a committee financed by the big drug companies and chaired by Sir Duncan Nichol of BUPA. In their report, published last September, Hewitt and Nichol argued for *more* creeping privatisation, suggesting that "increased private expenditure through for example an extension of user charges and patient co-payments is one strategy that should be considered." Shome mishtake, shurely?

'Backbiter'



NOOKS and CORNERS

FROM the Norfolk coast comes an instructive little tale about our modern "heritage" industry. Sheringham has a conservation area in its centre, preserving what is left of the old fishing port against an encircling tide of supermarkets and amusement arcades. In this, by the sea, are three fishermen's huts.

Two are Georgian, of brick with flint dressings, and known collectively as Scotter's Shed; the third, the Henry Ramey Upcher lifeboat shed, named after a member of the family who did so much to develop and sustain the fishing village, is Victorian. This contains an old lifeboat on display to the public.

Last year Sheringham town council bought Scotter's Shed and announced exciting plans to demolish all three sheds and replace them with... a new lifeboat museum. Designed by the technical services department of North Norfolk district council, this was to be a steel portal frame shed in the supermarket style, with plate glass and plastic boarding.

Oddly enough this proposal was not popular in the town and was abandoned. But now both town and district councils have bounced back with a revised scheme in which the Upcher lifeboat shed is to be "replicated" indoors. Why not leave it alone? Now an application to the heritage lottery fund is being prepared seeking 75 percent of the £500,000 cost. "Heritage"?

The district council's conservation architect has announced that "there is no merit architecturally or historically in the sheds" and, thanks to misinformation from the Sheringham Museum Trust, the department of national heritage (DNH) declined to list them. However, the DNH has now realised that Scotter's Shed is "probably a unique survivor of a fishermen's shed of this size in a longshore fishing situation on this part of the North Norfolk Coast", as well as being a precious reminder of Sheringham's real history. As the Georgian Group has complained: "It seemed to us perverse to demolish one of the few historic buildings in the town in order to construct a museum devoted to another aspect of the town's past."

A pity, really, that the district council is at once the planning authority and the conservation watchdog and the designer of the new museum. And, oddly enough, the chairman of the town council is an employee of the technical services department of the district council. Smooths things along, I suppose.

THEN there is the heritage of the Thatcher Years, notably that magnificent symbol of moral decline and financial irresponsibility, Lloyd's of London.

As we know, its brilliant architect Richard Rogers is a little sensitive to criticism. He is also upset that several journals have reported his successful attempt to prevent the publication of an English paperback edition of a book by the American, Stewart Brand (Eye 906).

"It is totally untrue to suggest that in some way I tried to veto the UK publication of *How Buildings Learn,* ***which I consider an extremely interesting book," writes My Lord Rogers to the*** *Architects' Journal.* ***"The facts are that the original edition contained several serious factual inaccuracies... When they reprinted in the US they corrected some of the inaccuracies but others remained and this we pointed out to Penguin. Since then we have had no further contact with them."***

Well, what is the truth? Theodore Goddard, lawyers acting for Rogers, complained to Penguin USA in April 1995 about alleged libels and threatened legal action. Penguin USA made changes, but not enough. When Penguin UK imported hardback copies to sell here, there were more complaints from Theodore Goddard. Penguin UK agreed not to proceed with the UK paperback or to reissue the hardback. Then the lawyers demanded all copies of the hardback be withdrawn from the shops and, in September 1995, demanded an apology in open court, damages, costs, apologies in architectural magazines etc. When Penguin inquired which passages so upset Rogers, it was told those on pages 57, 58 and 175. The author was not prepared to change the offending passage on page 175 and so in June, with more threats to sue and no possibility of agreement, Penguin agreed not to publish a paperback.

So Penguin, fearless upholder of the right of Salman Rushdie to publish despite *fatwahs* ***and death threats, crumple in the face of My Lord Rogers and his expensive lawyers.***

'Piloti'

Andrew Carnie will be showing an exciting combination of bacon slices and suitcases. A hybrid of his recent Organic show and his long standing suitcase obsession.

Charlie Fox, Paul Bowman, Jamie Thompson and Ben Coode-Adams present "A Form of Space". Four individuals manoeuvre within a confined space. They pass each other, stretched out, together, closed in: they move and interweave as if they are one side of the same coin! There is something somewhat ironic and somehow mock heroic in their being; trapped as they, and unable to stay still, they constantly exchange places.

Freddie Robins is showing ten odd pairs of knitted gloves.

Trudie Stephenson — from lonely hearts columns to sherbet valentines that fizz in the mouth. Stephenson placed adverts in the lonely hearts columns of the gay and straight press. Using the text and actual handwriting from the letters she received, she made large, heart-shaped sweets for the gallery wall.

Programme, Tram Depot Open Studios, Hackney

"I don't think I'm strong. But I must be strong. I'll leave it to God to kill me or to silence me. But it would be a great weakness and caving in if in the case of *Down by the River* or *The Country Girls*, or in the case of any of my books, if I let these onslaughts or attacks silence me. If anything, they make me go further. It's a battlefield, and each book is a new frontier.

Tom Lawlor arrives to photograph her. She puts on a light raincoat, with the collar up. She ties up her flaming red hair, baring her long neck. Tom brings her outside to stand on the grassy bank of the River Dodder. He sets up his camera.

"I want to be lovely," she says.

Interview with EDNA O'BRIEN
Sunday Tribune **(Ireland)**

Pseuds Corner

14 October - 2 November 1996: EXCHANGE VALUES: IMAGES OF THE INVISIBLE WORLD
Installation by Shelley Sacks

Shelley Sacks will stitch discarded and blackened banana skins together, which come from bananas grown in the Windward Isles, a former British colony, to form sheets of skin that will be sited on the gallery walls like minimalist images, through loaded texts, their installation centres around the nature of the relationship between producers and consumers in our post-colonial world order.

Autumn exhibition programme
Bonington Gallery, Nottingham Trent University

"My best friend is a rock," she [Donna Karan] says. "They're very inspirational..." At her beach house in the Hamptons, a billowing off-white sort of place, she sits on her own personal rock for inspiration. Of the menswear this season: "Every colour, every texture has been inspired by sitting on this rock. It's wonderful for menswear, but I find rocks very female."

Sunday Times Magazine

"For trifling sports I quitted grave affairs." (Virgil, Eclog. VII, 17) An Exploratory Investigation into the Sub-Cultural Semiotics and Narratives in the Retailing of Mountaineering Products

Geoff Crowther and Pete Varley, University of Huddersfield, UK

Abstract

This paper provides insights into sub-cultures of consumption in the market for mountaineering products. Specifically it focuses on the development of narrative and communitas in the retail environment and the role of personal selling in this context. Ethnographic involvement was used to gain access to the sub-cultures under investigation and depth interview techniques were employed at point of sale. The findings of the research project highlight the effects of sub-cultural norms and long standing cultural narratives upon consumer behaviour. It proposes that the harnessing of impression management may be used in conjunction with conventional retail marketing to extend competitive advantage.

University of Strathclyde
Marketing Education Group conference

Contributors: Gnome, A. Non, V. Bull, M. Kieran, D. Harvey.

£10 paid for entries

TVE

This Morning (ITV)
Game On (BBC2)

IKE a marauding Roman army, Richard and Judy, chieftains of the northern morning tribe, having conquered their southern rivals, Anne & Nick, have moved into the lands of those they vanquished and are presenting their This Morning show from London instead of Manchester.

Richard & Judy are looking pretty smug these days but, given the standards of morning television, seeing off Anne & Nick was no great achievement. It's as if, after winning an arse-kicking contest against a one-legged man, they jump around shouting: see, we've got two legs! And — as the London *Evening Standard* has long shown — having no competitors at all in your market tends to lower rather than raise quality.

The couple's explanation for their move to London was that it gave them greater access to metropolitan media talent which couldn't be fagged to fly to Manchester. Regrettably, in practice, this seems to mean a lot more of the popular psychologist, Dr Raj Persaud.

The doc has even developed a catchphrase for his participation in Richard & Judy phone-ins. "Mmm. There is *some* evidence of that." Thus does he square his still distantly visible professional training with the demands of tabloid television. Last week — following the revelation that the fictional Inspector Morse's first name is "Endeavour" — Raj conducted a phone-in on funny names. There was "some evidence", said Raj, that people's choice of profession was influenced by their name. For example, he had once known a psychiatrist called Couch. But Raj's parents had not christened him "Media Tart", so yet another of his theories fell down.

It's true, though, that, christened Richard, the male half of the presentational duo has turned out to be a bit of a dick. Always dangerously close in voice and question-technique to Alan Partridge, Madely now very unwisely concludes interviews with the Partridgism: "And on that bombshell..." Interviewing Lord Lawson about his diet book, Madely asked, in perfect Partridgese: "So — since you lost five stone — do yer feel sexier?"

Judy — who still bites her fingers with nerves on screen despite hundreds of hours of live TV — intervened to, as Anna Ford might put it, elevate the debate: "I bet — when you were chancellor of the exchequer — you never thought you'd be sitting on the *This Morning* sofa discussing diet plans with Rosemary Conley?" Lord Lawson paused. "Life's full of surprises, isn't it?", he replied, with sardonic hauteur. Still, it serves the bastard right. Here was the people's revenge for his recession: five minutes with Richard & Judy on the sofa between "funny names phone-in" and "how to take perfect pictures of your pets".

The flat-share sit-com **Game On** — plot synopsis: two men and a woman behaving badly — has returned for a second series on BBC2, despite hostile reviews first time round and relatively low ratings (though good for BBC2) of between two and three million. This has caused a chorus of reviews along the lines of: how the hell did this get recommissioned? Pedants might argue that it is the job of Britain's television critics to try to answer the question as well as ask it, but, as they omitted to do so, Square Eyes will try.

The first point is that newspaper reviews do not decide whether a series is recommissioned. If they did, the whole of television would consist of bland middlebrow, middle-class fare of the kind which the middlebrow, middle-class critical consensus favours.

The second point is that even ratings are relative. As well as being far from low for BBC2, the audience for *Game On* was shown by research to be predominantly young and trendy: the kind of viewers whom BBC2 has been trying to attract from Channel 4 and was threatened with losing again after the departure of *The X-Files* and *Absolutely Fabulous* and other hit shows to BBC1.

Hence, *Game On* may sometimes be puerile and tasteless, but, perhaps, for reasons of market share, BBC2 has decided to attract some puerile and tasteless viewers. This strategy might be either welcomed or derided, but it would be useful if hacks were at least aware of such considerations, rather than just self-indulgently whining about the failure of controllers to schedule the channel according to their adjectives.

'Square Eyes'

MEDIA NEWS

THE BBC and its director-general John Birt are not getting away lightly with their censorship of Martyn Gregory's film for *Newsnight* on the harassment of John Gorman (*Eyes passim*).

Gregory has responded with 5,000 words in the *Observer* (29 Sept), outlining the whole grisly story of Gorman's systematic harassment after he complained about the state of British Airways food and drink. This was followed by another long article in the *Guardian* (30 Sept), which went into the embarrassing details of the BBC censorship.

Two new facts emerged. First, during the entire process of the censorship by the BBC hierarchy, Gregory, who made the programme, was kept completely in the dark and was never even consulted by the "outside lawyer", Harvey Starte, whose report provided the official excuse for the censorship.

Secondly, the role of Sir Tim Bell and his PR company Lowe Bell was crucial in securing the censorship. Lowe Bell represented British Airways — and the BBC at the same time.

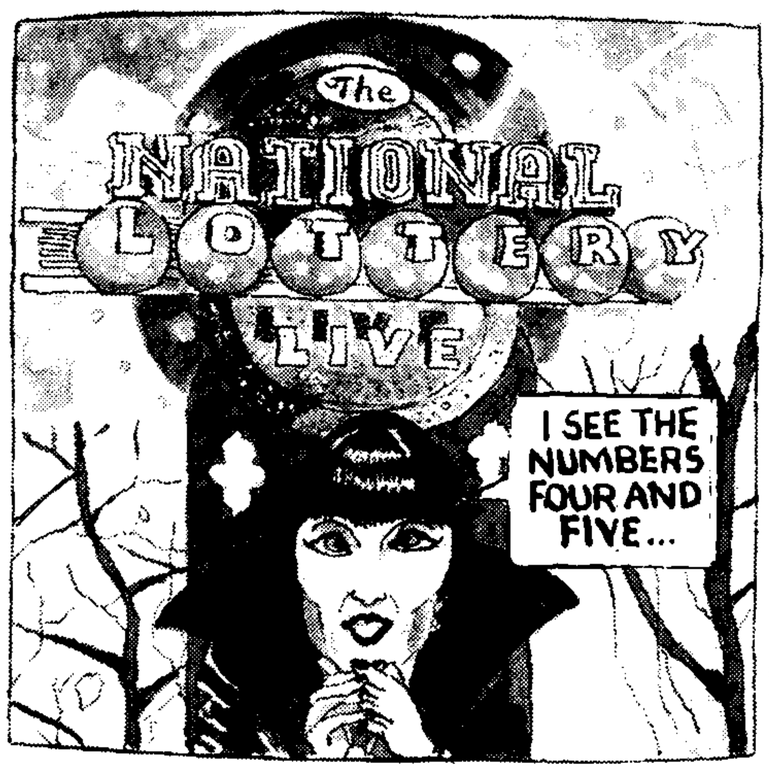
What about the role in the censorship of John Birt? After the first Gorman *Newsnight* item in 1994, Birt fired off an angry memo to current affairs chief Tony Hall. Was there a connection between this memo and Birt's reported friendship with Robert Ayling, chief executive of British Airways? Intrigued by this possibility, the *Eye* put three questions to the BBC:

- Is it true, as alleged in the *Observer* on 25 September, that John Birt has a cottage close to that of Robert Ayling, chief executive of British Airways, near Hay-on-Wye; and that he goes for walks with Ayling and was a guest at Ayling's 50th birthday party?
- If so, what about the memorandum Birt wrote on 31 August 1994 to Tony Hall, boss of news and current affairs at the BBC, and his deputy Richard Ayres, bitterly complaining about the first *Newsnight* item about John Gorman, especially because it "linked events to named individuals at the top" of British Airways? Did Birt at any time declare as an interest his association with Ayling, and would he expect anyone in public life writing such a memorandum to his subordinate to declare such an interest?
- Did the director-general play any part in the decision not to show the recent *Newsnight* programme on the Gorman affair?

The answers came from a BBC spokeswoman who said she only dealt with questions relating to the director-general. She said: "The director-general has a house in Wales. I don't know whether Mr Ayling has a house near that. I've no idea whether the director general went to Mr Ayling's birthday party. I've no indication as to whether or not they go walking together. I'm not aware that they do. They have over the past couple of years had one chance meeting at which they had the briefest of discussions about the first *Newsnight* programme."

Because she had "no knowledge" of the director-general's personal association with Mr Ayling, she did not know if Birt had declared any interest at the time of the memorandum or at any other time.

She said Mr Birt had played no part in the decision not to proceed with the recent *Newsnight* item on John Gorman. That decision, she said, was taken by *Newsnight* editor Peter Horrocks. He had commissioned a libel report from an outside barrister, "following the advice given by BBC lawyers who identified a number of significant legal risks to the story". Asked if the decision to take outside legal advice or to pull the programme had been discussed with Tony Hall, the man who got the angry 1994 memo from Birt, she replied: "I don't know."



BBC Resources, the Birtian department created to "downsize" the Beeb's various departments by making them pay for the resources they use, has been boasting of its successes.

Its latest glossy brochure brags that "we're in the black". In fact the figures show "a profit of £1.8 million on a turnover of £724 million".

Next year might show a healthier return if millions of pounds, recently obtained by Resources, stay in its coffers. The brochure fails to mention the source of this profit, however: a reduction between 1990 and 1995 in the rateable value of several BBC properties, including the Wood Lane Television Centre. The reduction meant a refund of £7 million from Hammersmith and Fulham council for the Wood Lane building alone.

The hefty refund poses a dilemma to Resources. Until 1994 the television departments paid their own rates directly to the local authority, thus the refund could technically be claimed as theirs. For now, at least, it sits in the accounts of BBC Resources accumulating interest while managers panic about what to do with it. (Anything but make programmes, presumably.)

Perhaps they should consult their property management company, Lambert Smith Hampton, the firm of chartered surveyors which won the contract in 1993 after no other company was invited to tender (see *Eyes passim*). This somewhat uncompetitive example of "out-sourcing" (privatising in non-Birtspeak) followed advice from one Hugh Tyler on how the BBC's large property portfolio should be managed. Tyler had been brought in as a consultant from, er, Lambert Smith Hampton. After the company took over the management of the BBC's property assets, it took on a new director: Hugh Tyler. The surveyors' contract comes up for renewal in a year's time and it is expected to sail through without a glitch.

TONY HALL, head of BBC news and current affairs, has admitted what staff have known for months: the launch of a 24-hour TV news channel will mean mass redundancies for journalists.

In a chilling interview with *Ariel*, the BBC's internal propaganda organ, Hall spoke euphemistically about "slimming down core activities". But he gave the game away almost immediately: "The question is whether we use the people facing redundancy... in areas which are expanding."

The axe has already fallen at Broadcasting House where the editor of *PM*, Margaret Budy, has been "persuaded" to leave her job, allowing the merger of *PM* with *The World at One* and the "closure" of at least three posts. More mergers are rumoured; but hacks facing redundancy will have been delighted by the news and current affairs directorate's glossy annual report — a 10-page colour brochure produced at vast expense and lauding Hall's achievements.

FIRST the good news: BBC Radio's "Trivium" computer system, designed to centralise the flow of programme proposals across the five channels, has finally come on line at a cost estimated by BBC management of £47 million.

Now the bad: radio production is being amalgamated with TV in the new, privatisation-friendly "production" directorate, and an entirely different commissioning process, which Trivium was never expected to accommodate, will be needed.

Er, so bye bye £47 million. Future BBC programmes investigating spectacular wastes of money will no doubt attract the same top-level management scrutiny as those about British Airways.

HACKWATCH: OLYMPIC GOLD

BITTER in-fighting has broken out within the leadership of the International Olympic Committee, whose 76-year-old president, the Spanish ex-fascist Juan Antonio Samaranch, must offer himself for reelection next year.

Stories abound of plots and skulduggery. As one of the few newspapers to employ an Olympic correspondent, the *Times* is well placed to give a blow-by-blow account. But will the hack in question, chief sports reporter David Miller, deign to keep his readers informed? On past form, it seems most unlikely...

2 June 1992: Journalists from Granada TV's *World in Action* produce a film and a book exposing Samaranch's role in the Franco dictatorship. Miller is apoplectic, denouncing the revelations as "mischievous bunkum". After protests from Granada, *Times* sports editor David Chappell halts syndication of Miller's article to other Murdoch papers and agrees to publish a letter rubbishing Miller.

11 June 1992: The letter duly appears — below a much longer one from Henley Regatta chairman and Miller crony Peter Coni, who attacks the Granada team for indulging in the vile practice of "investigative journalism". Meanwhile, an authorised and sanitised biography of Samaranch is published, written by — surprise! — David Miller. Spaniards who recall Samaranch's long devotion to fascism are surprised to learn that "he has, by the catholicity of his public and private behaviour, been able to rise above any criticism of his involvement in administration during Franco's time." The last sentence of the book reveals its underlying purpose — kicking off the old Franquista's campaign to acquire the Nobel Peace Prize. "The IOC, under the guiding force of Samaranch, is the most [*sic*] universal social instrument of peace in our time." Understandably delighted, Samaranch promotes the book and arranges its translation into several languages.

21 August 1992: The city of Berlin, which is bidding for the 2000 Olmypics, offers Miller an expenses-paid junket; in return, he praises bid leader Axel Nawrocki as "idealistic". It later emerges that this great idealist shredded sensitive files describing the "hospitality" provided to visiting IOC members.

28 October 1992: Sir Arthur Gold, chairman of the British Olympic Association, has marked his retirement by questioning Samaranch's leadership of the IOC. Miller is appalled by this impertinence: "His sentiments... could only serve to distance British administration still further from the mainstream of the Olympic movement."

28 January 1993: "Fleet Street's responsibility is to reflect and occasionally attempt to lead public opinion." None more than himself, Miller implies.

24 June 1993: Miller is horrified when the US Congress criticises Samaranch's plan to give the 2000 Olympics to Beijing. After ranting about "selective morality", he drops another heavy hint to the Nobel judges: "Samaranch considers the Olympic games, a weapon of peace, could serve to bring together China and its ideological opponents."

28 June 1993: *Time* magazine publishes a 20-page advertorial paid for by the IOC's multinational sponsors. The glowing text is crafted by David Miller — whose employers at Wapping apparently see nothing wrong in reporters pocketing fees from the people whose affairs they are paid to scrutinise.

25 September 1993: A *Spectator* editorial denounces the Olympics as "a carnival of commercialism, corruption and drug-taking". The only way to reform it is "to abolish the IOC".

9 October 1993: Miller, kindly deputising for the IOC press office, replies. The article, he alleges, is "an all-comers' records for errors and misinformation". He refrains from mentioning his private income via the IOC.

10 December 1993: Before the Lillehammer winter Olympics, which Samaranch hopes will win him his long-coveted Nobel prize, Miller cheers him on in the *Times*: "With some justification, Samaranch considers that the ability of the Olympic games to survive terrorism and boycotts... makes the IOC a worthy candidate for the peace prize."

11 February 1994: With the Norwegian press savaging the IOC for its lack of democracy and Samaranch for his fascist record, Miller plants a "question" at a Lillehammer press conference, suggesting to Norway's sports administrators that they haven't done enough to educate their people about Samaranch's noble organisation. Then he writes in the *Times* that an official "admitted, when questioned, that Norwegian sports authorities... should have gone further in explaining the IOC's function to a predominantly hostile, egalitarian Norwegian public and press".

22 December 1994: Remembering the needs of his private funders, Miller points out that "sponsorship, the key to the survival of the Olympic Games, whatever the anti-commercialism criticism by some, continues to grow".

29 December 1995: "I grow increasingly weary," he laments yet again, "of the jaundiced, casual criticism by the majority of the press of Olympic commercialism, which coincidentally provides them with the best media facilities to be enjoyed at any event." And, of course, provides Miller with a useful private income.

15 July 1996: "The first gold medal of the Centenary Olympic Games has already been won. By the city of Atlanta... I await a predictable thunderclap of cynicism from a thousand journalist colleagues with closed minds, many of whom, never having been to Georgia to see what has been done to make this festival possible, have already condemned the next fortnight as the Coca-Cola games... Let them shout as they may." A rash prediction, alas: buses for competitors and reporters fail to run, the electronic result system churns out garbage and Atlanta's security precautions collapse.

20 July 1996: On the eve of the games, the American HBO channel screened an interview with Samaranch where he gloated that "we are more important than the Catholic church". Frantically back-pedalling, Samaranch now lies at a press conference: "I did not mention the Catholic religion." Although the American press ridicules him, the trusty Miller reports that "Samaranch has been inaccurately quoted as suggesting that the Olympic movement was more important than the Catholic religion. What he said was that it has more followers than any religion." Er, not quite. Samaranch did indeed say that — but only at a press conference five days after the HBO interview. Meanwhile, Miller neglects to report that Atlanta's Archbishop, Monsignor John Donahue, has summoned Samaranch to his palace for an on-the-knees bollocking.

August 1996: Miller wins gold in Atlanta! His noted independence doesn't prevent him accepting a lucrative contract to write the official book of this year's Olympics, rushed out two weeks after the closing ceremony.

25 September 1996: In reflective mood, Miller pontificates in the *Times* about the lack of coherent organisation in British sport. He quotes a prominent friend of his, "one of many alarmed about the declining standards". Who is this impeccable source, a man who clearly shares Miller's commitment to the highest possible standards? Step forward Lord Archer of Weston-Super-Mare...

TREVVIES*

*formerly "Luvvies"

"It [the word "luvvies"] is a word that's had a deadly impact. I think it's a word that's as appalling and as abhorrent as any racist word. I hope I choose my words carefully and without the hyperbole that's supposed to be the affliction of the luvvie, but I think it's a word as disgusting as the word 'yid' or 'nigger'."

TREVOR NUNN
Vogue

Submitted by Ivor Hughes.

An occasional column devoted to gems from the acting profession. £10 paid for entries.

DOING THE ROUNDS

PERFORMANCE-related pay increases have, as predicted, proved nonexistent for many nurses, with others getting as much as 0.25 percent to top up their 2 percent rise.

But at **Central Manchester healthcare NHS trust**, some employees have decided not to be tied down to such miserly increases. Guess which ones?

As the job description contract puts it: "The following are excluded from the remit of local pay determination. 1. The chief executive 2. Executive Directors 3. All staff on senior managers payscales and 4. Staff in training grades." "Senior officers of the trust" will receive "a fair and equitable pay and conditions package" in accordance with national guidelines and as determined by the chairman and non-executive directors (er, ie other senior officers of the trust).

● **GWENT health authority** has delayed for a third time publication of a report into the controversial appointment of Julie Sharma as policy and performance director.

Ms Sharma applied for the post a few days after being sacked from **Gwent Community health trust**, even though the job was only open to salaried NHS employees. Oddly, she was the only applicant. She also received £35,000 in severance pay from the trust, which itself is now being investigated over a series of alleged dodgy appointments.

Jeremy Hallet, Gwent health authority's chief executive, has jumped ship and will shortly be appearing at **Wiltshire health authority**. His acting replacement from 1 October is John Thomas (sic), who presided over **mid-Glamorgan HA** when it provided, in the words of health service commissioner William Reid, "the worst example of complaints handling in Wales".

● **CALDERDALE NHS trust**'s proposed new hospital has run into more trouble (*Eye* 903). Despite reducing the bed numbers from 600 to 500, private finance initiative tenders substantially exceed the £36 million available. "Less ideal accommodation" (ie cheaper) is now being mooted as a way of cutting the cost, though thankfully no further bed reduction has been proposed. The trust is, however, managing to scrape together some profit by charging pregnant women £2 to photocopy their antenatal scans. This is a mere 4,000 percent more than Prontaprint charges.

● STUART INGHAM has become the first NHS trust chief executive to break the £100,000 barrier. The latest annual report of the **United Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust** reveals that Ingham earned £102,000 last year. He also presided over the sacking of whistleblowing biochemist Chris Chapman (*Eyes passim*), who had the cheek to save the NHS money by exposing scientific fraud. Three years on, Chapman is still awaiting the outcome of Lord Merlyn Rees's report into the case. Publication is promised before Christmas — but which year? Meanwhile Professor John Wincher, one of two men at the centre of the Chapman allegations, has got fed up with waiting and has decided to retire early.

Those at a loose end on 16 October may wish to turn up to **Ainsdale medical centre** for a GP education evening entitled "Better Practice, Better Profit." Chaired by Dr RM Russell MBCh MRCGP DRCOG, presentations include "In Sickness and in Wealth" and "Money Transmission — the Most Cost Effective Method." Doors open at 7.30pm and a hot buffet is provided.

● THE **Norwich district hospital** fiasco rumbles on (*Eyes passim*).

Irene Jacoby, South Norwich council leader, told the *Eye* the proposal to close the Norfolk and Norwich and West Norwich hospitals and replace them with a flagship hospital in the middle of nowhere had been discussed at a public inquiry into the South Norfolk local plan some years ago. Yet Labour councillor Eamonn Burgess insists any such debate was denied by the inspector because an outstanding planning permission applied. Who's

telling the truth? Irene's chief planning officer Mike Haslam may provide the clue. He's on record that his brief is "to do anything possible to secure the approval of the (new) hospital."

● STAFF and patient parking at **Ninewells hospital** in Dundee was free until last year when a 40p charge was levied on all cars except those occupying a small car park miles from the hospital. As of September, the charge rose by 50 percent. As chief executive Tim Brett told one protester: "We need to increase our revenue flow. I'm a bit troubled by such a large increase, but it's what the trust board wanted." I wonder if he pays?

● **ESSEX Rivers healthcare trust** has shelved a project to recruit Canadian nurses to help the staffing crisis at **Colchester general**. Five managers spent £15,000 flying to Toronto to recruit 100 nurses but managed to entice just one back, with two to follow. Ironically, a vacancy freeze has now been imposed to tackle a predicted £3.7 million debt. Quite who's going to do the work of the other 97 absent nurses is unclear.

● **SOUTH Derbyshire health authority** has decided not to hand over £1.2 million worth of savings to GP fundholders, preferring to use the money to tackle its £10 million debt. Needless to say, the fundholders are not amused and are threatening to overspend on their current budgets, forcing the health authority to pick up the bill for the debt. What a great scheme.

M.D.

DOWN ON THE FARM

WHILE Prince Charles was absolutely right to slam intensive farming in his recent speech to the Soil Association, his remedy is somewhat wide of the mark.

Guided by Patrick Holden, the association's policy director, and by his friends in the Agriculture Reform Group (ARG), Charles argued that "environmentally sensitive" farming should get a bigger share of the £3 billion common agricultural policy (CAP) subsidy bonanza to lure more sons of the soil into the organic net.

What Charles's friends don't seem to have told him is that visits to the trough simply force up land prices. With farming businesses none too subtly governed by that quaint notion of "return on capital", subsidies thus require their owners to squeeze more and more from the land as its value increases. However, the scope for organic farms to produce more is limited by the ban on using artificial fertilisers and synthetic pesticides. Therefore, faced with subsidy-driven land price inflation, the only option for the green brigade would be to keep its prices high — thereby locking organic food firmly into the niche market ghetto from which Charles is so anxious it should escape.

Surprisingly Charles identified the germ of a solution in his speech, even if he failed to follow it through. Cheap food from "efficient" intensive farms, he said, was an "illusion" as this type of farming did not have to pay for the messes it created — not least the £2.4 billion cost of sorting out BSE, and the millions needed to extract pesticide residues from drinking water.

Making them pay the true costs of production would close the price gap between organic and intensively-produced food, letting consumer choice dictate the market. But so deep is the dependency culture in farming — deeper than in any social security "scrounger" — the only solution Charles's ARG friends could offer him is to dig deeper into the trough.

THE stock answer to organic farming lobbyists is that organic farming's reduced yields would cause mass starvation. No one was quicker to point this out after Charles's speech was intensive farming apologist Chris Haskins, European Union-loving chairman of Northern Foods and supplier of brightly-packaged, processed food to major supermarkets. Yet in the UK some organic yields approach 85-90 percent of intensive outputs.

Ironically, this 15 per cent reduction could be restored by using the land forced out of food production by the EU's compulsory set-aside scheme. But such is the fatuity of set-aside that even Prince Charles's organic farm at Highgrove, committed to the lower yields this type of farming brings, is compelled to set-aside some of its acres to compensate for the over-production of its chemical neighbours. Haskins of course does not explain why, if increased organic production would lead to starvation, we actually need Charles to "set-aside" his land.

ONE of the more insidious tricks of ministry of agriculture (aka Maffia) officials when challenged to justify their massively over-zealous interpretation of the EU's slaughterhouse hygiene directive is to claim that they are merely obeying orders: the EU commission requires them to interpret the law in this rigorous way.

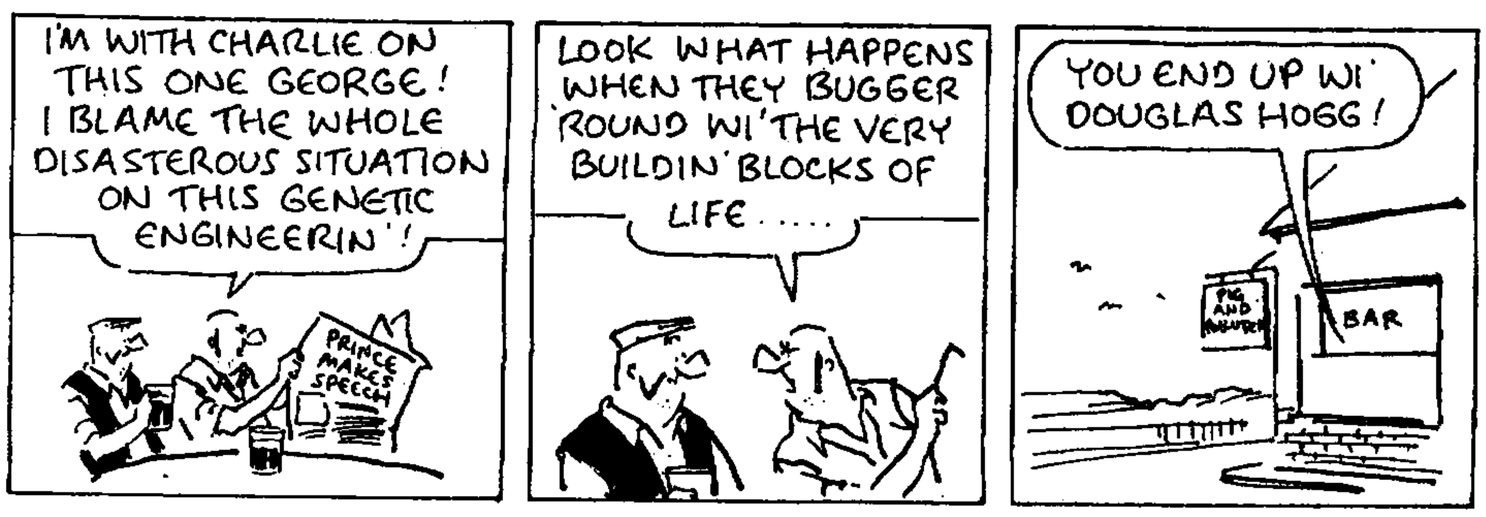
This tendency was well illustrated at a recent tribunal where Bristol-based slaughterhouse owner Toby Baker was appealing against a Maffia "requirement" to dig up his expensive slaughterhouse floor to provide new — and unnecessary — drains. Without offering any technical evidence as to why changes should be made, Maffia official Peter Hewson simply told the tribunal that, although there was no specific legal requirement for new drains, the commission supported his demands, which therefore had to be obeyed.

The Maffia used a similar tactic when excluding a Hailsham slaughterhouse from the lucrative "cattle destruction scheme" (*Eyes passim*) on the ground that the commission would only allow premises with a full EU "export" licence, which the slaughterhouse did not have, to join the gravy train. But now Guy Legras, director-general of the commission's DG VI, has advised that there is no such requirement. Meat men now ask if Hewson's claim that Baker's abattoir needs new drains is also fictional.

'New Muckspreader'

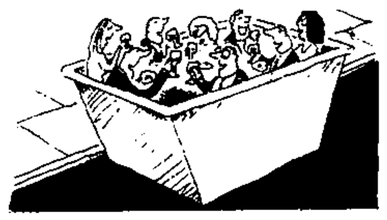
Old Macdonald

ALBERT


I'M WITH CHARLIE ON THIS ONE GEORGE! I BLAME THE WHOLE DISASTEROUS SITUATION ON THIS GENETIC ENGINEERIN'!
PRINCE MAKES SPEECH
LOOK WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY BUGGER 'ROUND WI' THE VERY BUILDIN' BLOCKS OF LIFE.....
YOU END UP WI' DOUGLAS HOGG!
PIG AND WHISTLE
BAR

Rotten Borough Advertiser

Friday, 4 October 1996



HETTIE CAMPAIGN

THE campaign against Hackney councillor and former social services chair Hettie Peters is taking a new twist.

Peters, who will soon be attending a committal hearing on six counts of obtaining housing benefit by deception from Westminster city council, is now being embroiled in another housing scam.

In 1994 Coun Peters moved into a house in Hackney: 145 Balls Pond Road, Dalston. It was claimed that she was renting it for £12,000 a year. But how could an unemployed black woman in Hackney find a landlord willing to take the chance that so high a rent would be paid?

Private Eye was recently sent a copy of a reference purporting to come from her employers. It states that Peters was working at 20 Dalston Lane (the address of the Hackney Women's Centre); that she held the position of centre manager; and she was being paid a salary of £28,457.00 per year. It also runs: "Miss Peters is extremely reliable, has high moral integrity, discretion and honesty. She will make an excellent tenant." It is signed by Liz Heimlich, director.

Peters' enemies have seized upon this item with glee. Rather than being employed as centre manager on a five-figure sum, she merely chaired its management committee; rather than receiving a £28,000 salary, she was paid nothing for the voluntary political post. So here, detractors claim, is proof that Peters obtained a tenancy by deception and is therefore a corrupt individual. And where did she get the rent money from? Why, there's also been concern for some time about where funds from the Women's Centre have gone.

There are just one or two problems with this line of reasoning, however. The so-called employer's reference is a forgery and the signature at the bottom is not Liz Heimlich's. The tenancy was in the name of Peters' sister, who paid the rent. Peters, moreover, is a woman of independent means. And as far as Hackney Women's Centre's finances are concerned, auditors Ernst & Young found nothing untoward in their report two years ago despite the best efforts of Hackney council leaders to rubbish the place.

So why would anyone want to forge an employer's reference and try to land Peters in more trouble just as her court case over the Westminster housing benefit saga comes up for committal? Surely it couldn't be anything to do with the fact that she, a black woman, dared to defend housing director Bernard Crofton against charges of racism, and that it was Peters who recently blew the lid off the Mark Trotter/AIDS cover-up that has brought down Hackney's Labour regime?

NEW MODEL? BARMY!

AN inquiry by Lewisham chief executive Barry Quirk into links between councillors and a firm that received council cash threatens to wreck the plans of election strategists at the "new" Labour party HQ to portray Lewisham as a "model" Labour council.

The firm involved, Lewisham Enterprise Finance (LEF), received £¼m from the council over the last five years, despite councillors twice being warned about serious breaches in its accounting procedures. When the council finally pulled the plug in February, the firm went straight into receivership.

It has emerged that four Labour councillors received loans, either as individuals or in another capacity, from LEF or from the wife of LEF director George Capsomidis. Heads have now started to roll.

Rushley Green councillor Ian Arnold has resigned as chair of the leisure and environment committee. He twice voted to keep funding LEF, against legal advice and warnings — and forgot to mention that he had received a £20,000 loan from the wife of the LEF director.

Also in the spotlight is Marlowe ward councillor Eddie Capone, who in 1993, a year before he was elected, received £5,000 from LEF, which he is still repaying. In February he too ignored legal advice and voted to carry on funding LEF. Both Arnold and Capone were found guilty of serious breaches of Lewisham's code of conduct, which states: "Elected members must avoid any appearance of improper conduct".

Meanwhile David Sullivan, Manor Lee councillor and director of the refuse firm Serviceteam (*Eyes passim*), has been found to be connected to loans totalling £18,000 from LEF, largely in his capacity as head of a training firm called ASPD. And Drake ward councillor Terry Scott, a former whip and left caucus organiser, received, like Capone, a £5,000 loan from LEF.

BIFFA BUNG

MYSTERY surrounds the £10,000 donation paid by waste disposal merchants Biffa to Merthyr Tydfil borough council last year.

The bung was supposedly because Biffa was extracting coal as part of its development of a waste disposal dump at Trecatti. But it was recently revealed by John Price, Merthyr's corporate services officer, that previous "coal extraction from Trecatti was not of sufficient amount to warrant any community benefit". So there will be no more extraction this year, and the £10,000 was paid for... well, nobody knows what.

The council has been close to Biffa since it sold the lease for the giant dump to the firm for £1 in 1993. All Merthyr's rubbish now goes to the enormous hole, generating stomach-wrenching smells for angry locals.

Last year the relationship between Biffa and the council improved even further when council chief executive Roger Morris, along with Labour's leader and deputy leader, Coun Ray Thomas and Coun Linda Matthews, took a trip to Belgium last September, paid for by Biffa, to examine a waste treatment leaching plant.

The trip, via Eurostar, entailed two nights in a smart hotel in Brussels. It was only sanctioned by the council afterwards — even though the trio could have viewed exactly the same kind of leaching operation along the road in Pontypridd.

The £10,000 bung, paid as a "community benefit", was kept secret for several months until Coun Thomas announced that the cash had been used to resurface a road at Blaen Dowlais. Now councillors have been told by the council's Trecatti site liaison committee that members are not allowed to talk about the £10,000.

IN BRIEF

GLASGOW: Labour evicted 214 tenants last year for rent arrears — one 19-year-old single parent became homeless owing £400 — but no such fate awaits four Labour councillors with arrears of £10,000. Housing department officials refuse to name them, and none will be taken to court; but Govan councillor Deirdre Gaughan is now paying off her £4,000 arrears. The council says it isn't the level of debt that matters, but the steps taken to reduce it.

MALDON: Embarrassment for the Tories in deepest Essex where former five-times mayor Ron Daws is to go before the beak on charges that he took £45,000 in bribes from a property developer. Daws, a councillor for 30 years until this year and a former chairman of the Association of District Councils, is accused of accepting sums of £5,000 (twice) and £35,000 as an "inducement or reward for planning permission" dating back to deals from the turn of the 80s. He will be in the dock with the former md of the development company that built the local supermarket.

EYE TOLD YOU SO: Wandsworth council has sacked rubbish contractor Serviceteam, whose bid was the lowest by £740,000. There were 26,000 complaints in the last year as the firm sacked dustmen and put others on six-day weeks to make an unworkable contract workable.

RUCK OF THE MONTH

GATESHEAD council's ruling Labourites came to blows over a survey that showed residents "highly satisfied" with council services. No sooner had housing chair Paul Tinnion announced the good news than he found himself in the office of council leader George Gill being grabbed and vigorously shaken by fellow councillor Richard Rook. Rook, who has been suspended from the local party for six months, is a committee member of Bleach Green Residents' Association, which recently distributed a leaflet complaining about poor services and tenant dissatisfaction with the council.

GAS LEAK

SECRECY envelops negotiations between the gas and electricity industries over a cock-up that will cost one or other half a million pounds.

They have been talking for 10 weeks but cannot solve the problem that arose when National Power, the biggest electricity generator, got horribly confused over kilowatt-hours and therms and committed itself to buying £30,000 worth of gas for the bargan price of, er, £500,000.

National Power says it was a clerical error that invalidates the contract; but the gas companies are unimpressed and intend to get their dosh: there is even talk of legal action.

Meetings between the two are held every fortnight but there is no sign of a compromise. Who will pay for the computer cock-up? It certainly won't come out of the huge bonuses paid to the directors as tribute to the marvellous service they provide.

EDUCATION NEWS

IN THE past month or so tonnes of newsprint have been devoted to advising university entrants what to do if they do not achieve the required A levels to get into the institution of their choice. Then the broadsheets were suddenly full of massive lists of courses where there are vacancies. Why the change in emphasis?

This has happened since Tory legislation dictated that any course not full to its capacity would lose a proportion of its funding. So a course for 100 students which enrolled only 90 would lose 10 percent of its funding. This, it was reasoned by John Patten, as education secretary, and since then by Gillian Shephard, would force institutions to raise their educational standards. It would also have the very positive effect, from their viewpoint, of cutting expenditure on higher education by forcing colleges and universities to close down courses that were not full — and by implication were no good.

In practice the reverse has happened, with universities filling their courses with anyone who can be persuaded to take a place. Those who do not reach their A level requirement to get on the course are regularly offered a place anyway.

So a student offered a place at Bradford Business School for an A and two B grades was accepted on this year's course even though he only got a C and two Es. At University College London, on one course of 25 students, six fell below the required educational standards.

On top of this fall in standards, university courses also have overseas students quotas. Non-EU students pay fees of anything up to £8,000 a year; and shortfalls in government funding mean it is inevitable that in this area too students are taken on according to ability to pay rather than academic ability.

AT LAST the government is taking proper steps to ensure Britain's children have basic skills. Instead of encouraging nonsensical progressive teaching methods they have set up the national numeracy project.

The department for education and employment has enthusiastically produced fact sheets about the project's organisation and goals, which are to help schools teach and assess pupils' progress in numeracy.

One such sheet explains that the numeracy project "involves 12" local education authorities across the country, "four in London, four in the Midlands and five in the North". Er, four plus four plus five equals *twelve*? British children's future is in safe hands.

Pre-School Nursery Facility Rhymes

Georgie Porgie, pudding and pie,
Kissed the girls and made them cry.
When the boys came out to play,
Georgie Porgie was accused of sexual
harassment and creating a hostile
offensive environment and after a
summary tribunal he
was taken away.

Letters

Imagesoft options

Sir,

Another triumph for Paul Foot and investigative journalism the PRIVATE EYE *way! I refer to the oh-so-wittily titled "Butchered" in Footnotes (*EYE *904) about the failed information technology company Imagesoft.*

Apparently Imagesoft went under because I and my fellow directors were living the high life at company expense. We paid ourselves too much, drove expensive company cars and, in the best tabloid tradition, notched up "record-breaking entertainment expenses at top people's eateries". It seems I regularly feasted colleagues and customers at the House of Commons, even hiring "a special dining room" for the purpose.

Mr Foot also mercilessly exposes how I made a hasty exit from the boardroom after some shady deal in which I converted a loan from my friend Colin Davies into 600,000 shares in the company.

And now for the facts.

The paid directors of Imagesoft all received less than their market value, although of course in the hope of prosperous times ahead. There were no extravagant company cars and no lavish entertainment.

For my part, I never sought or received any remuneration from Imagesoft and would not have done until it traded profitably. I had no company car. The only entertainment hosted by me at the Commons or anywhere else consisted of about three £10 per head lunches for three people in the Strangers Dining Room and one dinner for six guests and four people from Imagesoft in the smallest dining room at about £30 per head. I am theoretically still owed modest expenses that I incurred as chairman but chose not to pursue during the life of the company when the company's financial priorities lay elsewhere.

I have never had a loan from Colin Davies. The loan converted into 600,000 shares was part of the start up loan from Mr Davies' company Forms UK to Imagesoft. This straightforward commercial arrangement was agreed in July 1995. When I resigned as a director in October 1995, it was simply because, with a reduced government majority, demands of me as an MP meant I could not give enough time to the role of chairman.

Any competent journalist checking his story out could have learned these rather dull facts. Result: no story. Mr Foot did not check. Result: another fearless Footnotes exposé, Paul.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BUTCHER MP,
Solihull, West Midlands.

● ***See wittily-titled "Butchered 2" in Footnotes.***

Wrong wavelength

Sir,

If the noble Mr D.A. Godfrey has already been bounced into handing over £10 for lifeboat crews "who have refused delivery of the Severn class", then the EYE *should quadruple the amount at least and send it to the RNLI to compensate some of the time we have spent correcting your infernal misinformation.*

St Peter Port, Guernsey, were never offered and never refused "The Will", the first production Severn; they are preparing to collect their version of the class "Spirit of Guernsey" in the next few weeks. Stornoway are still keen to operate a Severn class lifeboat but it was jointly decided that "The Will" — which was damaged by a seven-metre wave, not seven-foot as you quote — should become a relief lifeboat and a later version be sent to Stornoway.

My letter to you in EYE *905 already made this last point clear. For Godfrey's sake, get it right this time!*

Yours faithfully,
B. MILES,
The Director, Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Lucky dog

Sir,

Regarding EYE *907. If you glance at* EYES PASSIM, *I think you'll find that Andrew Rosindell, ex-Young Conservative, actually owns a Staffordshire Bull Terrier who wears a Union Jack waistcoat and is called Spike, not a Pit Bull Terrier at all.*

As an active member of "Stafford Rescue" I would like you to ensure that it is Rosindell and not poor Spike (a secret socialist) who is destroyed under the dangerous dogs act.

Cheers,
RUTH SHIPSTONE,
Wakefield.

NEWTON DISCOVERS SOD'S LAW

Bishoprics

Sir,

Is it true that, because of recent events north of the border, the rules of chess are to be changed to allow Bishops to jump anything? I think we should be told.

Yours,
DAVID STONES,
Gildersome, Leeds.

Sir,

A literary note. The Oxford English Dictionary contains the following entry under the word Fuck:

1535 Lyndesay Satyre 1363 Bischops... may fuck thair fill and be vnmaryit.

Why hasn't the Church worked out a suitable policy on this in the last four and a half centuries? Are Lyndesay and Quentin Tarantino related? I think we should be told.

Yours,
BOB EVERETT,
London NW2.

Lookalike

Mme Cézanne

Mandelson

Sir,

Has anyone noticed the remarkable resemblance between Cézanne's wife in the painting "Madame Cézanne in a Yellow Armchair" and the legendary "spin doctor" Peter Mandelson? I wonder if they could possibly be related in some way?

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN FARRELL,
London N7.

I-SPY

Rabat, Morocco

Submitted by Shaun Thompson & Gina Dekker. £10 paid for similar submissions. *(SAE required for return of photographs. No transparencies.)*

Pony tail

Sir,

Re: ARSE.P.C.A. In the last EYE *you reported on our refusal to obey magistrates' orders to return a rehabilitated pony to its owner who had been convicted and heavily fined for cruelty.*

On 23 May the TELEGRAPH *reported a Mr Peter Davies, said to be the director-general of the RSPCA, stating: "There must be no second chances for those convicted of cruelty."*

In August we received a letter from the RSPCA saying: "If you refuse to return Mr Probert's horse then the RSPCA cannot assist or defend your action in any way." It was signed Peter Davies, director-general.

In view of their similar names and job titles it seems possible that these two people are related, even though they hold diametrically opposed views on animal welfare. Can anyone explain?

Yours etc,
ALASDAIR MACGREGOR,
Trustee, The Society for the Welfare of Horses and Ponies.

Blake's 7

Sir,

I was intrigued to read in EYE *906 Jon Blake's assertion that seven RUC officers were flown "to the UK to arrest a man".*

Mr Blake may be surprised to learn that Northern Ireland is in fact, er, already in the UK. In fairness to the distinguished man of letters, however, I would say that initials can be extremely tricky things to master. Has he for instance been able to discern the difference between SAS and A.S.S?

Yours etc,
CHRISTOPHER CLARKE (a UK citizen),
London W6.

Morning glory

Sir,

How reassuring to find the Marquesa's legendary reputation for accuracy confirmed by her fragrant account of our visit to Cork on a press tour to promote THIS MORNING, *and my hilarious kissing of the pee-soaked Blarney Stone (*EYE *907).*

Only the tiniest blemishes could be found with the story.

1. There has never been a THIS MORNING *promotion trip to Ireland.*

2. I have never kissed the Blarney Stone, wet or dry.

3. I have never been to Cork.

4. I have never been to Ireland.

However, the bit about Judy and me being married, and that part saying we present the programme together, was spot-on, so congratulations to the Marquesa for another dazzling scoop! What contacts she must have!

Yours,
RICHARD MADELEY,
"This Morning", London.

● *Egg on face time for the Marquesa for printing a load of blarney. The story of tourists kissing a pee-drenched stone was told by John Stapleton on RTE's 'Liveline'. It had nothing to do with Richard Madeley at all.*

Eyes sore

Sir,

*For Chris Gibson (*EYE *907) to think Manchester isn't ugly, he must have his eyes up his arse or else he's a member of Manchester's planning committee.*

JOHN SHARPLES,
Manchester.

Colemanballs

£10 paid for contributions

"... Tony Adams — he's the rock that the team has grown from."
RON ATKINSON, ITV
(P.J. Hill)

"... every time he does it my heart leaps into his mouth for him."
JOHN BARRATT, BBC
(Tony Brady)

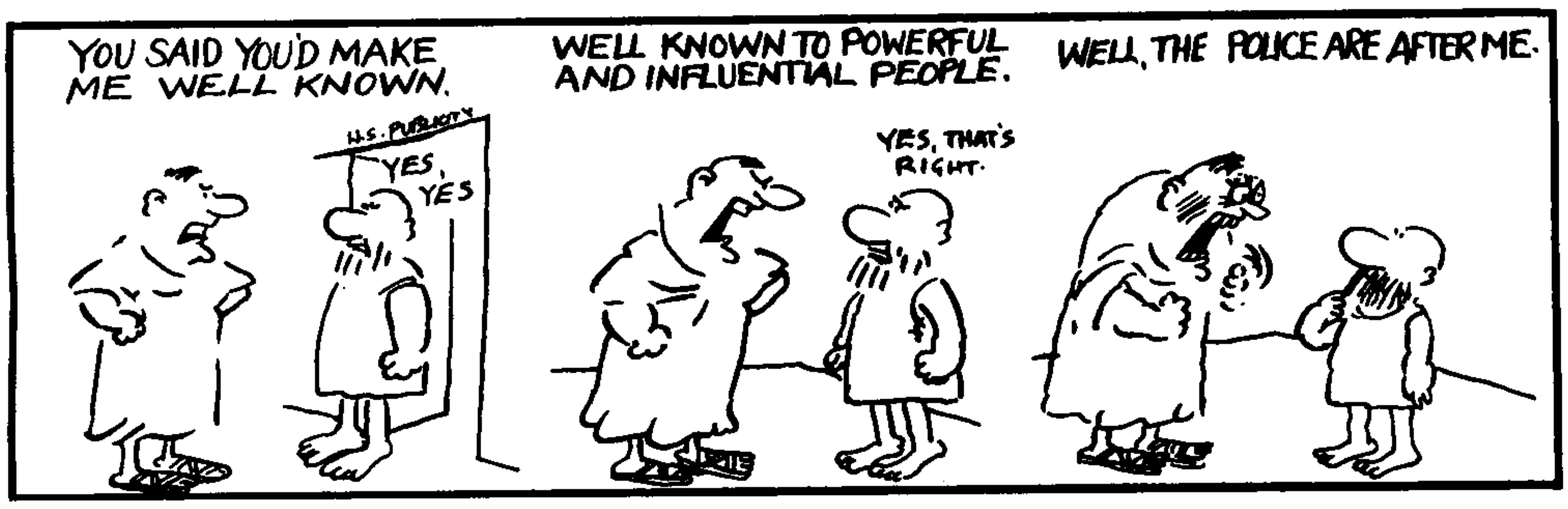
"What the difference is between three minutes to three and five o'clock, I'm not sure."
Lincoln City FC Chairman, YTV
(Emma Mayo)

"Last week in Russia we saw the name 'McCoist' spelt in the Acrylic alphabet. Quite a sight..."
ALISTAIR ALEXANDER, BBC Radio Scotland
(Murdo McShie)

Interviewer: *This afternoon you're going to be judging the Face of '96 competition. What will you be looking for?*
Model: *Well, you've got to be 5ft 8in.*
BBC1
(John Ravenscroft)

HOM SAP

AUSTIN


YOU SAID YOU'D MAKE ME WELL KNOWN.
WELL KNOWN TO POWERFUL AND INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE.
WELL, THE POLICE ARE AFTER ME.
U.S. PUBLICITY
YES, YES
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

Letter from **Israel**

from Our Own Correspondent

OUR prime minister Benyamin Netanyahu is not the first Jew to come to grief on Jerusalem's Via Dolorosa.

By opening a gate there that will enable up to 400,000 tourists a year to scramble through a tunnel below the Old City's ancient, fragile houses — only yards from two of Islam's holiest shrines — he may have sabotaged his career as well as the peace process.

The omens on both the foreign and the domestic front are very bad indeed. Not only has the Palestinian Intifada revived, but Jordan's King Hussain, who had just spent $8 million refurbishing the mosques, is absolutely furious; Israeli relations with Egypt, Morocco and Oman are in the doldrums; and the oil-rich Gulf kingdom of Qatar has suddenly changed its mind about exchanging ambassadors.

Netanyahu's internal critics, not just in the opposition Labour Party, but also among the military elite whom he has persistently failed to consult, are having a field day. Having berated him during the first 100 days of his rule for doing so little (even his privatisation plans for the domestic economy have been shelved), the prime minister's recent bout of activity has earned him the nickname of "learner-driver".

Why, though, did Netanyahu choose to open the controversial tunnel entrance only days after shaking the hand of Yasser Arafat — something he had promised his voters he would never do? Experts claim the two events are linked.

The prime minister, they say, raised much of the election funds, which gave him his narrow victory on 29 May over Shimon Peres, from religious extremists in Canada and the United States. The same donors finance the fanatical Jewish seminaries in the Arab part of Jerusalem, whose armed students seek to expel all gentiles from the city.

Feeling betrayed by Netanyahu's treacherous handshake with Arafat, the orthodox donors, whose money Netanyahu will need to get reelected, demanded a reassuring gesture. Connecting the Via Dolorosa, a medieval street in the heart of the Arab quarter, directly to the Wailing Wall, would show the Arabs who was boss and enable the Jewish extremists to move below, as well as around the Muslim and Christian areas.

Lambasted even by those on the pragmatic right for such a provocative step, Netanyahu has been further ridiculed by his insistence that the tunnel, an old water carrier from Hasmonean — ie post-biblical times, as far as Jews are concerned — "touches the pillar of our existence".

Perhaps he got away with such mystical nonsense because of the general tendency of Israeli politicians to gush when it comes to Jerusalem. They certainly did so when endorsing the "3,000 years of Jerusalem" birthday celebrations last year: as every archaeologist knows, Jerusalem had existed for well over 1,000 years when the Israelites conquered it in 1,290 BC.

A place of worship since Paleolithic times, it had been inhabited by Amorites and Hittites in the Bronze Age, then fortified by the Jebusites. Moreover, Jerusalem had served as the Hebrew capital only during the First Temple. In the Second Temple period (538 BC to 70 AD), from which most of its Jewish antiquities date, the regional capital was first Persepolis, then Antioch. The founders of Zionism had planned the centre of the new Jewish state to be Tel Aviv, a modern, Jewish-built town.

Still, most Israelis today regard Jerusalem as their sole property and eternal capital, thus enabling the prime minister to argue that keeping the tunnel open is a matter of principle. What remains in question is only the human cost of doing so, now that 12 Israeli soldiers (and 60 Palestinians) have died.

Unfortunately for Mr Netanyahu, according to Israel's most veteran commentator, Eytan Haber: "No Israeli mother wants to sacrifice her son for this principle."

FUNNY OLD WORLD

● "I speak with the full authority of the Minister of Health. Zambian women will not use vaginal jellies as contraceptives because they cause too much slippery. The problem with jellies is that the vagina becomes hot and watery, and causes bubbles and heat on a man's penis. Then the men experience too much slippery and bubbles during sexual intercourse, and they do not enjoy it at all. According to our tradition, a woman is supposed to be dry, not wet, for her husband to enjoy sexual intercourse, and when men find their wife's vagina is watery with bubbles and heat they accuse her for being unfaithful and will often shout or strop. I had a problem with my husband, who always suspected I was sleeping with other men, so I stopped using the jelly. Too much slippery is a terrible thing. Vaginal jellies are no longer being supplied by the Department of Health. — Press release from Sister Magret Malambo, Lusaka." *(Zambia Daily Mail 14/9/96. Spotter — Dr M. Bush)*

—●—

● "Junoon's live concert was to be held on 25th of June," reported Kaify in Pakistan's The Muslim under a column headed A Pure Fun For Teenagers, "but for some reason it was delayed. After twenty days, the moment arrived when the show was to start. But didn't, because too many cooks of our hilarious youth arrived to spoil the broth. The 'without tickets' who passed the bottleneck guarded by the people having all sorts of arms.

"The hall was filled with all sorts of chicks and cats named Junoonis. The group after two or more average songs played neell neell sankhein, when Junoon went Junooni and Junoonis went mad. Salman dedicated the number to the gals who use to wear blue contact lenses and the 'bother' boots. The hotel management must be worried if the hall exploded into pieces due to the loud music and pandemonium made by Junoonis. I was sent. Really gone.

"There were three categories of Junoonis present in the hall. The first stood on chairs, shaking their heads. The second were far out and excellent standing and just clapping (it doesn't mean they were simply clapping). The third group was made up of those who made blunder to come with their families (all of the three included both boys and girls). The five people who are making all this trouble are Brain, Ali, Salman, Ashiq Ali Mir, and Malcolm Govees the drummer. They sang a few more numbers when the crowd got sent and approached the stage. So at least the splendid moment for Junoon arrived when the concert was over. The function provided pure fun for the Cub Scouts of Islamabad." *(The Muslim, 9/8/96. Spotter — James McKee & Frances Riddelle)*

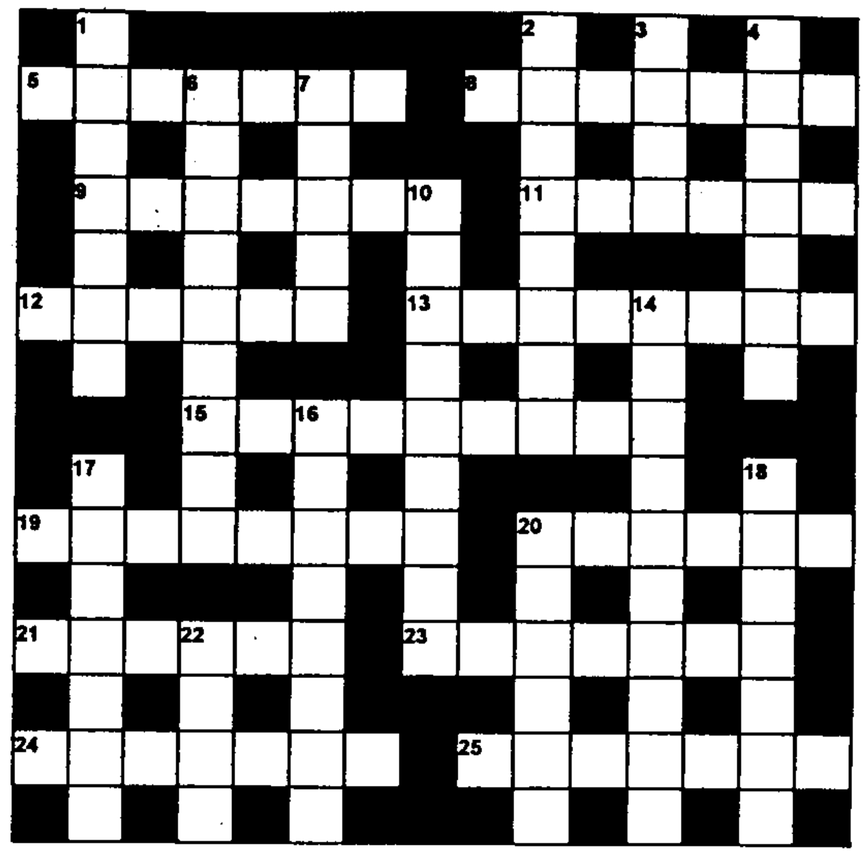
● *"We have reluctantly decided to suspend the insecticide advertising campaign which we launched last month in Guatemala," said a spokesman for the chemical manufacturing giant Bayer. "This action has been taken following complaints from the Jewish community in the country, who objected to the caption reading 'Sudden Death is a German Speciality'."* (Chemistry & Industry 2/9/96. Spotter — Dr C. J. Urch)

compiled by

Victor Lewis-Smith

EYE CROSSWORD 63

by Cyclops *£100 prize*



ACROSS

5 One sucker who'd hardly welcome a stakeholder society (7)
8 'Hi' from Prince Philip, left out and swallowing an E as a stimulant (3,4)
9 Shaft backward Dicky, the showbiz celeb (7)
11/1 Whether it's just an environmental scare story, a matter of degree? (6,7)
12 Naff *Sun* taking interest in divorcee of no particular gender (6)
13 A dose? Put gin on balls (8)
15 Hardly a dung heap, then, southern Iraq in Clinton's eyes (2-3,4)
19 Combine lay and bunk off around one — what could be cooler? (8)
20 Architecturally renowned place — Prince gets the sweats (6)
21 A drink before no good potential turkey (6)
23 Brenda: one who likes a flutter? (7)
24 Get delirious etc about arse of very fanciable type (7)
25 None backing Colonel North for president? (7)

DOWN

1 (see 11)
2 Noel right bag according to tastelesss 'Gotcha' victim (8)
3 Colleague cuts Blair & co. down to size (4)
4 For one political faction, it's sadly fatal getting a hard on (2-5)
6 A woman's resentment of a member's nasty snipe at loveless ambassador (5,4)
7 Watch part played endlessly by Di as far as Charles is concerned (5)
10 One that likes a good greasing has roving hand (5,4)
14 Definitely a nation of arseholes producing such relentless competition (3,3,4)
16 Neil gaffe ("F off") scuppered the party (4,4)
17 Sort of sex practised by Brenda in a carriage (7)
18 Tabloid hack — he's broadcast a load of balls about (7)
20 Recent divorcee steeped in craft — an expert (6)
22 Give credit to a big loser (4)

£100 prize to first correct solution opened on 11.10.96. Entries to "Crossword", Private Eye, 6 Carlisle Street, London W1V 5RG.

Solution to Crossword No. 62

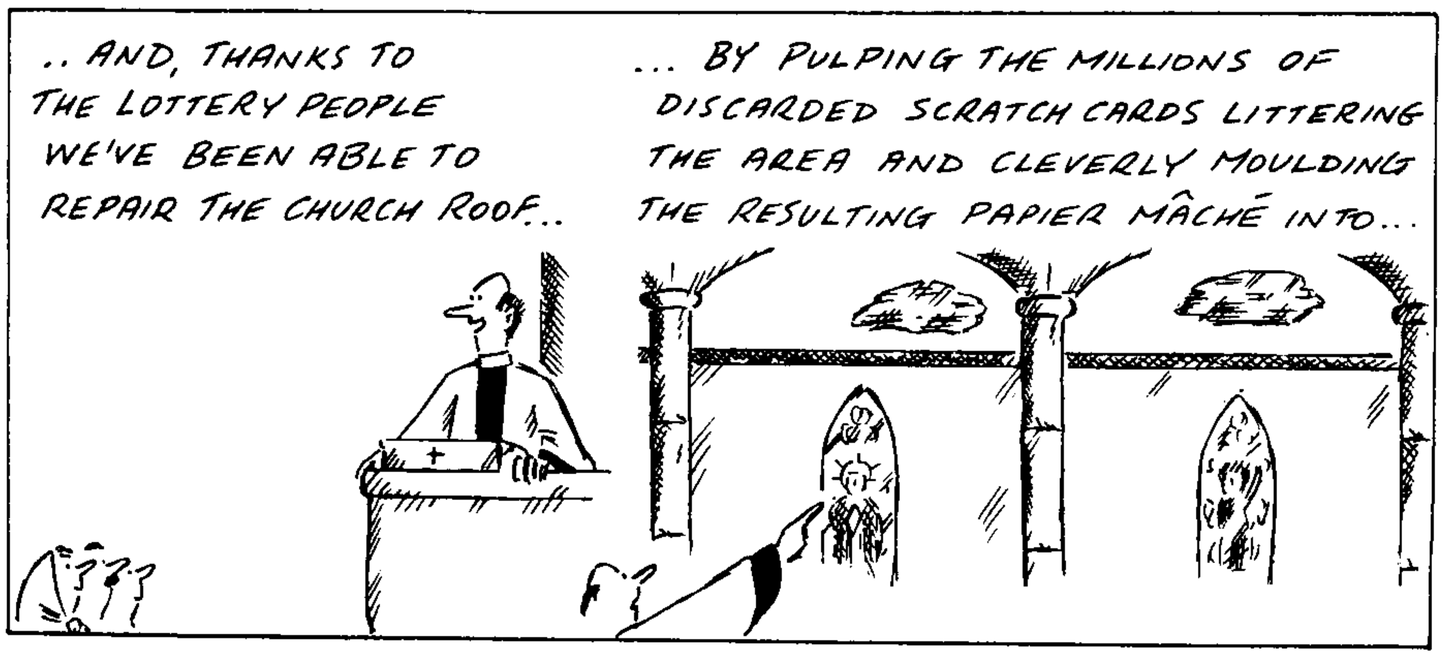
Winner: ADRIAN WELLS

ACROSS: 7 Esther 9 (see 1) 10/16 Land of Hope and Glory 11 Lulu 12 Down 13 Canvasser 15 Allason 17 Premier 20 Lord Gnome 22 Oslo 25 Dail 26 Gravy train 27 Larking 28 Lib-Lab.

DOWN: 1/9 Shadow Cabinet 2 Draft 3 Scholar 4 Observers 5 Uncle Sam 6 Attlee 8 Scandal 14 Born-again 16 (see 10) 18 Erotica 19 Embargo 21 Oracle 23 Scribe 24 Lyell.

The Lottery Winners

TURNER


.. AND, THANKS TO THE LOTTERY PEOPLE WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO REPAIR THE CHURCH ROOF..
... BY PULPING THE MILLIONS OF DISCARDED SCRATCH CARDS LITTERING THE AREA AND CLEVERLY MOULDING THE RESULTING PAPIER MÂCHÉ INTO...

KNEE IN ALCOHOL REVELATION

by **A.A. Erewego,**
Our Man In The Pub

THE WORLD of soccer was rocked to its foundations last night *when Ron* Knee, Neasden's tight-lipped supremo, broke down and confessed that he had a problem with alcohol.

"I never touch it," he told stunned reporters. "For all these years people have seen me in the Boston Arms during the game and assumed that I was a proper manager — i.e. permanently drunk like my players."

Alcoholic Sparkling Water

"The truth," he explained over a tomato juice, "is very different. I have let everyone down. My family, my friends and the fans Sid and Doris, who will be gutted to discover I am teetotal.

"I am trying to get off the wagon, but I just do not have the willpower. I am seeing a counsellor, Eddie Balon, the Landlord of the Boston Arms, who is doing his best to start me drinking, but I will have to take each day as it comes."

LATE SCORE

Alcoholics Anonymous 6
(Striker A 2, Striker B 2, Striker C 1, Pevsner o.g.)

Neasden FC 0

MAN OF MATCH: Dr Tom Stuttaford, who wrote a column on alcoholism in Neasden Fanzine "Pissed on Saturday"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

That Tory Grandee Letter In Full

Sir,

We are extremely important.

Yours faithfully,

SIR EDWARD HEATH KG MP PC NBG,
THE RT HON LORD HOWE OF MOGADON PC QC NBG,
THE RT HON LORD CARRINGTON OF BOSNIA PC RSVP OE NBG,
THE VERY RT HON DOUGLAS HURD MP for Nat (West) PC NBG,
THE RT HON VERY LORD VISCOUNT WHITELAW OF OYSTEREYES PC OE NBG,
THE RT HON SIR LEON BRITTAN, Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner for External Trade Matters (Paper Clips) and International Negotiations, on behalf of the European Union PC NBG.

Brussels.

SENIOR CHURCH FIGURE RUNS OFF WITH MARRIED WOMAN

by Our Religious Affairs Staff

A MAN widely tipped for top office in the Church of England, Prince Charles, was yesterday not in hiding after repeated revelations that he had run off with a married woman.

A C of E spokesman said "We are not shocked. It will not affect his career at all. The main thing is that Charles has shown he is not sorry and he is not going to mend his ways. Perhaps he should not have gone public and told his story to the seedy Jonathan Dimbleby but in the end it is his affair.

LATE NEWS

Even-more-senior church figure 'has son'

The well-known religious leader, God, was last night named as the father of a child born out of wedlock named Jesus Christ.

God was not available for comment, and was said to have made himself invisible.

(Reuters)

GLENDA SLAGG

Now with Added HRT!

● HATS off to Anna Ford!?! She's the feisty femme fatale who gave the Chancellor a run for his money on the radio?!! She's got everything a woman wants?! Brains, beauty and loadsa dosh!?! No wonder she had Chubby Clarke a-blusterin' and a-flusterin'!? Good on yer Anna!?

○ COME off it Ms Ford! No, let me finish don't interrupt, you've had your say!?! (Geddit?!) Just because you used to be beautiful doesn't give you the right to be rude!?! So, bugger off!?!

■ *HAROLD Pinter?! What a dirty old man he's turned out to be?! In his black polo-neck sweaters and his silly glasses, a-droolin' and a-dribblin' all over the thinking man's strumpet!?! That's Joan Bakewell to you — stoopid!?! Here's a tip from Auntie Glenda, Harry Boy!?! Take one of your long pauses!? Twenty years should do it!?! Geddit?!!*

● SPARE a thought for poor Paula Yates!? What's she ever done to deserve a knock on the door in the middle of the night and all her drugs and porno-pix taken away for investigation?! Leave her alone, Mr Policeman?! She's only having a harmless bit of fun? Are women not allowed to do that nowadays or what?!?!

○ HAROLD Pinter — arentcha-sickofhim? *(You've done this. Ed.)*

■ *HATS OFF to Sir Laurens van der Post — He may be pushing 90 but there's more wisdom in this man's little finger than the rest of the world put together!?! No wonder Prince Charles has turned out so well with Sir Laurens as his guiding guru!?*

○ HERE they are — Glenda's Fall-Guys! Geddit!?!

FRANKIE DETTORI — He's just ridden seven winners at Ascot!? How about another one called Glenda's Ready!? Geddit?!

HUMPHREY CARPENTER — Britain's Ballsiest Biographer!! Hi there Humph!? I've got a secret in my drawers that you might want to look at!? Geddit!?

PAUL GAMBACCINI — Crazy name, crazy gay!

Byeeeee!

DETORY BREAKS RECORD

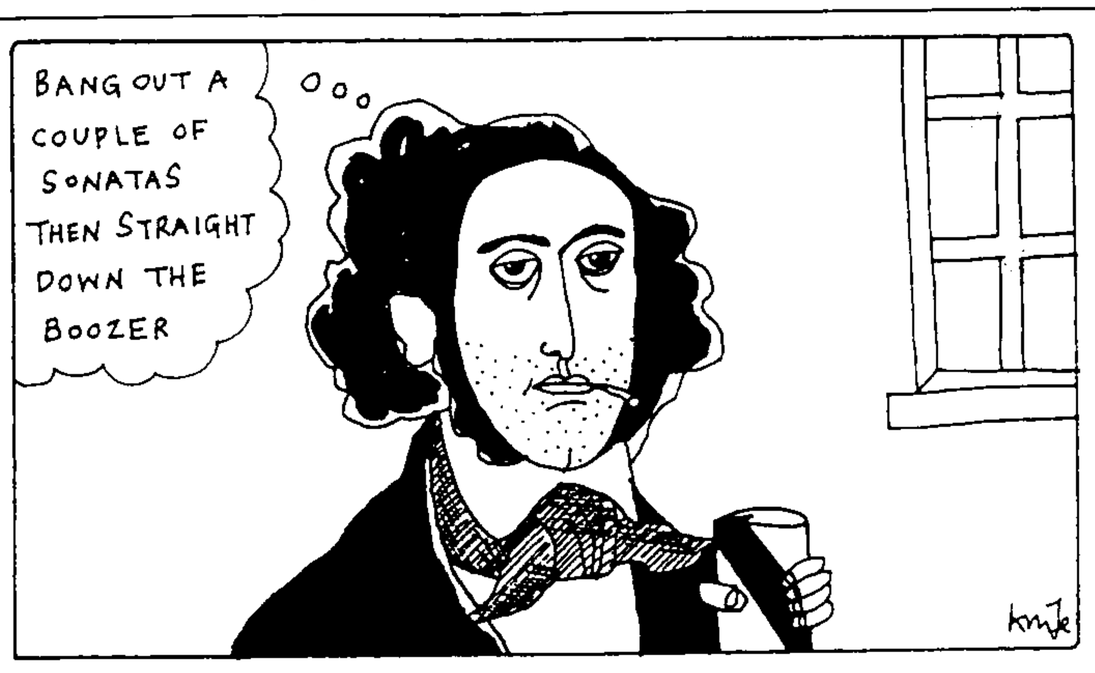
by Our Racing Staff **Punter Davies**

FRANKLY-Hopeless Detory has established a world record at losing.

He has now lost seven by-elections in a row. Says The Major, who manages Detory's stable: "It is incredible. They said it could not be done, but Frankly will go down in the history books as the worst *ever* leader of the Conservative Party."

ASCOT TIPS

2.30 Bonsor Dog Doo-Dah Band	500-1
3.00 Portillo Lad *(NAP)*	100-1
3.35 Ken's Hopeful	10-11
4.00 Virginia Creeper	100-30
4.15 Quentin's Boy	Non-Runner

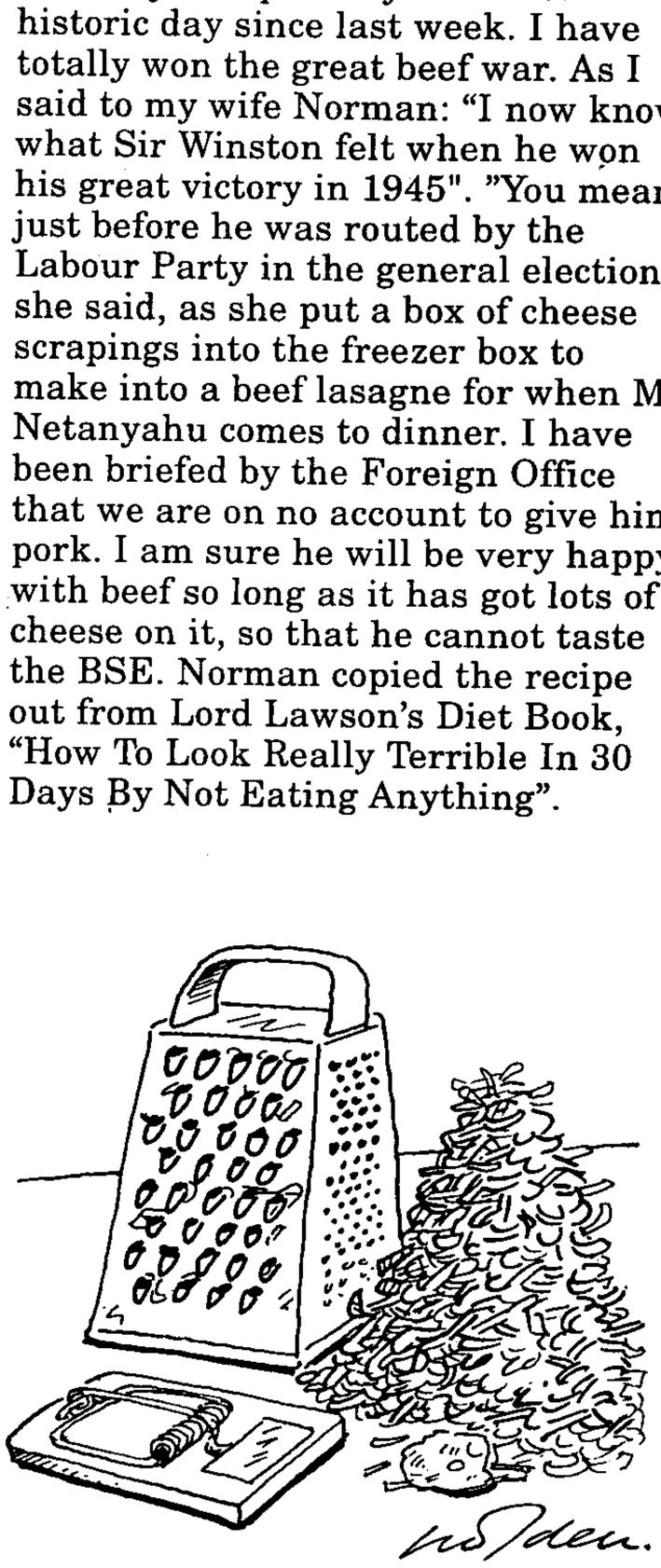


MENDELSSOHN BEHAVING BADLY

The Secret Diary of John Major aged 47¾

Monday

Today was possibly the most historic day since last week. I have totally won the great beef war. As I said to my wife Norman: "I now know what Sir Winston felt when he won his great victory in 1945". "You mean just before he was routed by the Labour Party in the general election," she said, as she put a box of cheese scrapings into the freezer box to make into a beef lasagne for when Mr Netanyahu comes to dinner. I have been briefed by the Foreign Office that we are on no account to give him pork. I am sure he will be very happy with beef so long as it has got lots of cheese on it, so that he cannot taste the BSE. Norman copied the recipe out from Lord Lawson's Diet Book, "How To Look Really Terrible In 30 Days By Not Eating Anything".



But as I was saying, I have today won the beef war. I am not going to kill any more British cows, just because Europe says so. I know I promised to burn all the cows in England, if they would then let us export all those that were left. But things have changed. The Europeans told us they were never going to buy any of our beef ever again, and so I discovered some new research which has been on my desk for many months which says that there is no need to have a cull at all. I put this in Mr Hogg's briefcase and sent him off to Brussels to tell them where they could put their beef and that from now on they could eat cheese for all that I cared. Oh yes.

Cheeseday

Even though I won the war against Europe yesterday, I decided to underline my victory by sending Mr Rifkind to a place called Switzerland, which is not in Europe, to say that if we had a Single Currency there would be a Third World War. He made a brilliant speech in his funny Scottish voice which certainly made the Swiss bankers sit up and go to sleep. But it does not mean that we are against a Single European Currency. Oh no. I have not ruled it out and I have not ruled it in. Our position is clear, as it always has been. Now that Rifkind has spelled it out, there is no need for any further debate on the Single Currency.

Wednesday

I am not inconsiderably incandescent with rage, according to the newspapers, and for once they are right. My ex-friend Mr Clarke went on the Today programme and told Mr Humphrys that my policy of not ruling in or ruling out the Single Currency was "pathetic". I am taking this as a blatant criticism of my very carefully thought out policy. "Are you going to sack him?" Norman asked me, over our breakfast (cheese on toast). "If he is at all an honourable man, he will resign," I said. "I am going to sit by the phone waiting for his call."

Wednesday, very late (ie 9.15pm)

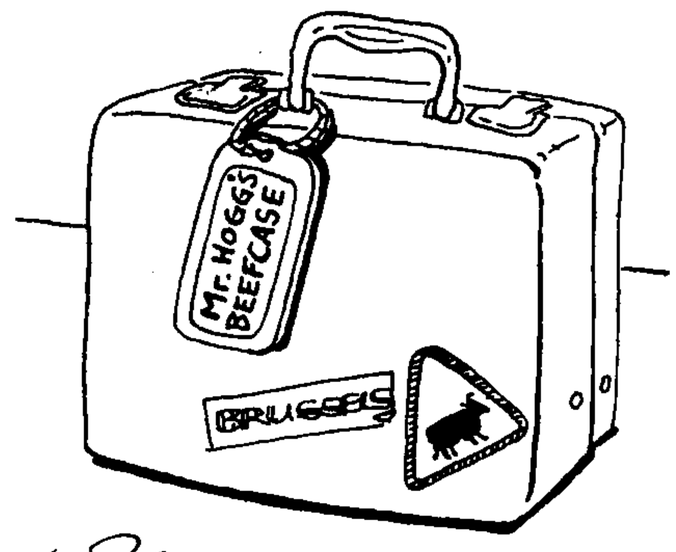
Mr Clarke has still not rung to say he is going to resign. Who is pathetic now? I will have to get my new best friend Mr Sir Nicholas Bonzo-Dog-Doo-Dah-Band to go on the Today programme tomorrow and attack Mr Clarke.

Thursday

Sir Nicholas Bonzo did just as I told him and really put Mr Clarke in his place. He said he thought that possibly Mr Clarke's remarks were "not entirely helpful" although he was sure that Mr Clarke had "quoted himself out of context". Immediately the phone started ringing and all the newspapers and television wanted to know whether I was going to sack Sir Bonzo for his astonishingly outspoken attack on Mr Clarke. Mr Dr Mawhinney then rang me up and said that, for the sake of party unity, I would have to rebuke Sir Bonzai. "I will do no such thing," I said very firmly. "That's OK," he said. "You already have. I put out the statement half an hour ago."

Friday

Mr Dr Mawhinney's secret plan for winning the next election has gone wrong, as I always predicted it would. He said that if Norman did all the interviews instead of me, everybody would like her and we would beat Mr Blair hands down. But when she did her first interview in the Independent, she got the answer wrong. When the man asked her: "Have you got any advice for Mrs Blair when she moves into Number Ten?", Norman replied: "I am sure that when Mr Blair wins the next election, his wife won't need any advice from me on what to do with her old bits of cheese." When I read this I realised that she had made a terrible mistake, going on about the cheese again. "You will have everyone laughing at me, Norman," I said, "if you keep on about the left-over bits of cheese. All the snobs will think I am ridiculous and vote Labour."



Saturday

For the third time this week I am in no small measure in my judgement incandescent with rage. As I said to Norman: "I am completely cheesed off." "I thought we had drawn a line under the cheese," she said. "Now it is you who are bringing cheese into it." "I am talking about my brother Terry," I told her. "So is everyone," she said. "He's got this new column in the Daily Mail." "I know," I said, "that is why I am cheesed off."

"There you go again," said Norman, "bringing up the cheese again." Then my brother Terry himself rang up to tell me for the third time that he was going to write a column in the Daily Mail. "It could be a great help to you, John, in your career," he said. "I might even be able to swing the election for you by stressing your human side, and that you are not as grey and boring as everyone says you are. For instance, in my first column I am going to tell the story about Cyril the Squirrel, and how you used to feed him pieces of cheese you'd got from Mrs Kierans when you'd been round for one of your evenings showing her your collection of cigarette cards of famous cricketers. Ha, ha, ha."

TOUCHING CHRISTENING PHOTO

KNACKER IN SHOOTING ROW

by Our Crime Staff **Nick Dross**

AN angry Inspector Knacker gave reporters a warning last night that he would shoot them unless they dropped their questions at once.

Inspector Knacker was facing what he believed to be hostile members of a dangerous organisation (the Daily Telegraph) who were armed with loaded questions about the shooting of an unarmed man in Hammersmith.

It emerged later that the journalists had no questions at all and were merely trying to surrender to the Inspector and write down anything he told them.

ON OTHER PAGES

- Killer "saw Riverdance"
- Killer planned to melt polar cap and flood planet
- Killer's link with aliens
- Unfunny Guinness joke by Jak

"Don't be silly, darling, you HATED it!"

THE BOOK OF BENJAMIN

Chapter 94

1. And lo Benjamin, who is called Netanyahu, ruled in the land of Israel.
2. And Benjamin said to the children of Israel: "Behold, I bring a rod of iron for the backs of Araf-ites and the Arab-ites.
3. "And when they see it they will shiver and shake like unto a Pomegranate in the early Frosts of Hebron.
4. "Then will the Araf-ites seek peace for hitherto they know it not in any meaningful sense."
5. Then the children of Israel clapped their hands and rejoiced even as if they hearkeneth to their entry in the song contest that is called Eurovision.
6. Even as when Wogan, that is called Tel, cometh forth and pronounceth "Israel nul points."
7. And then they rose up and went into the West Bank and pitcheth their tents in the lands where dwelleth the Arab-ites.
8. And the children of Israel crieth with one voice:
9. "This land is ours. It sayeth so in the Book of Begin and the Book of Shamir.
10. "So it must be true."
11. Then Benjamin spake again to the children of Israel, saying: "Lo! Let us dig up the tunnel of our ancestors, even the tunnel of our fathers and their fathers' fathers and their *(Get on with it. God.)*"
12. "Even the tunnel that goeth straight underneath the Holy Place of the Araf-ites."
13. And the people said unto themselves: "Good. This will really annoy the Araf-ites."
14. And they took up their spades and diggeth mightily under the rock until they came even underneath the temple of the ungodly.
15. Then Benjamin looked on his work and was pleased and saith to his wife Sarah:
16. "Verily, I am going on a long journey to tell the peoples of the world that I am a man of peace."
17. So he came even into Lon-don to see the leader of the Brittites, a man called John, Brother of Terry, Son of Major-Ball the Gnomemaker.
18. And it came to pass that even as Benjamin spake to John of the Dove of Peace, the Araf-ites took arms in their fury at the Tunnel of Benjamin.
19. And they hurled rocks and stones at the Sons of Israel.
20. And Arafat himself waxed wrath crying: "Wo unto Benjamin for he has broken his word unto me."
21. But Benjamin hearkeneth not and told the sons of Israel to get on with the smiting.
22. And they did so, smiting even three hundredfold of the Araf-ites.
23. But it was not all one way.
24. For this time the Araf-ites were armed even unto their teeth with guns given to them by Rabin, the Peacemaker.
25. And the Araf-ites did a bit of smiting themselves.
26. And they returneth an eye for an eye and a bullet for a bullet.
27. And the Children of Israel were sore amazed and muttereth amongst themselves: "Verily, this is not in the script *(Surely 'scripture'? God)*."
28. And there was great wailing and gnashing of teeth and firing of semi-automatics.
29. But Benjamin's heart was hardened and he crieth in a loud voice: "Let the Araf-ites do as they will. For I am a rock and I moveth not, even as the rocks stand in the place called Megido, that is Armageddon, which it will be if I have anything to do with it."
30. And the Children of Israel sang his praises by day and by night.
31. It was just like old times.

(To be continued)

Daily Mail
NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 35p
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1996

BLAIR LINKED TO I.R.A. IN PRIVATE SCHOOL SHOCKER

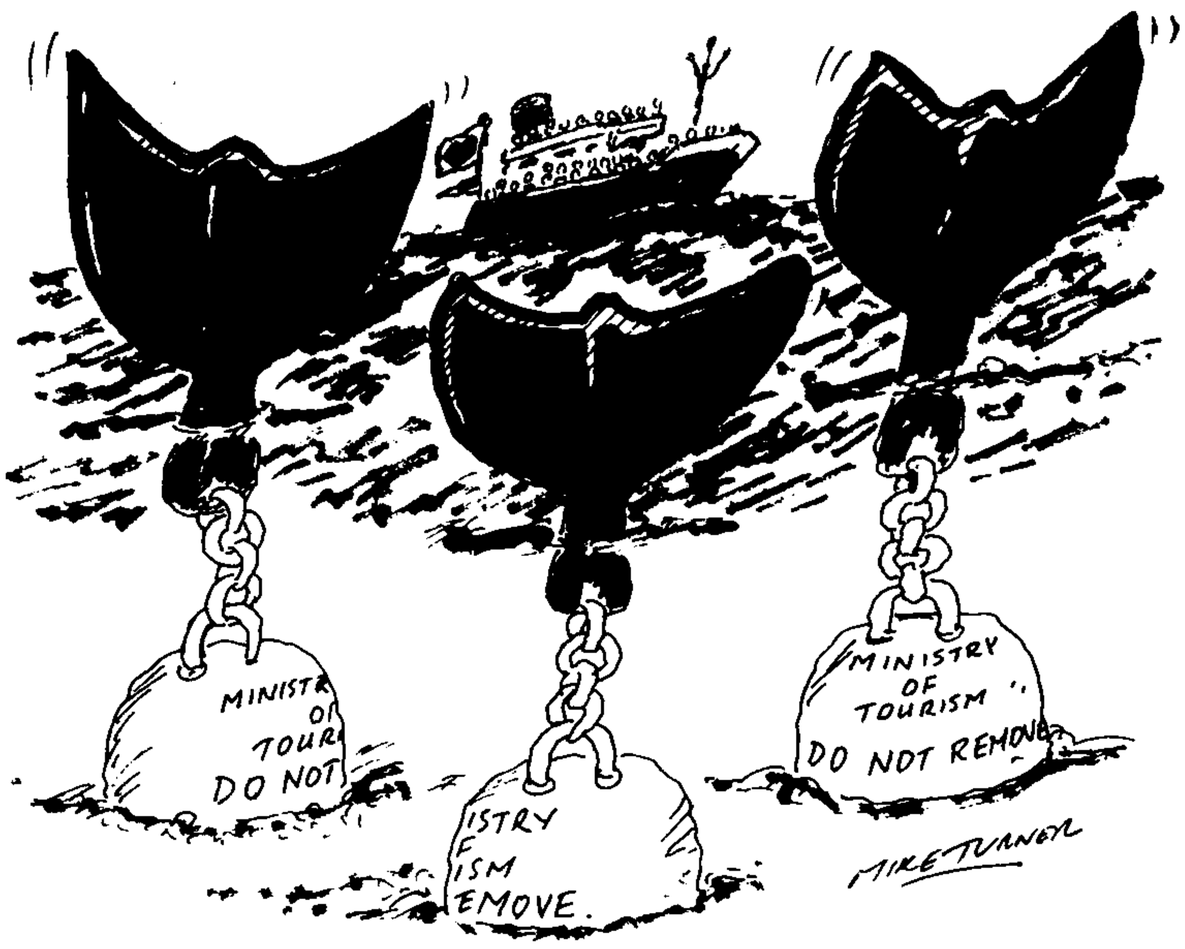
by Our Political Staff DAVE SCARE

LABOUR leader Tony Blair is directly linked to the terrorists and murderers of the IRA, the Daily Mail can reveal.

Our investigation reveals that Blair's own son, whose name cannot be revealed because we cannot bother to look it up, is at this moment studying at the same £24,000-a-term private school where top IRA man Seamus O'Semtex was briefly a pupil in 1973.

Vote Conservative

This is only the latest shock sensation to have rocked Mr Blair's so-called "New Labour" Party in the past 24 hours.



STALKER GOES FREE

by Our Court Staff **Joshua Rosenbeard**

THERE were scenes of outrage in court yesterday when the man at the centre of the stalking controversy was allowed to walk away unpunished.

The man, defence barrister David Stanton, had repeatedly harassed the blonde dental nurse over the course of the trial, turning up every morning and making suggestive remarks about her clothing and her sexual behaviour.

"He wouldn't stop," said the woman. "Even when the judge told him he was out of order. He called me a 'Queen Bee' who was 'asking for it'."

Court At It

There were immediate calls for a new law to stop weirdos like Mr Stanton appearing in bizarre clothing and mouthing obscenities at women by whom they have become fixated.

NEWSREADER TO BE SUED BY BURGER CHAIN

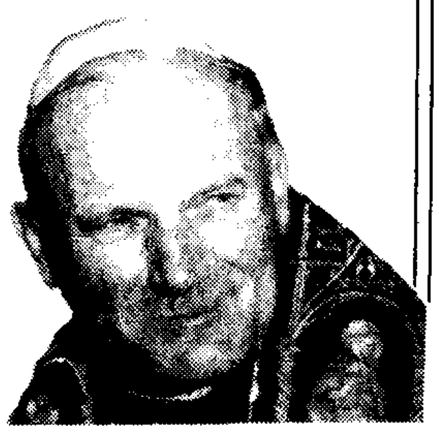
by Our Legal Staff
Joshua Rosenburger

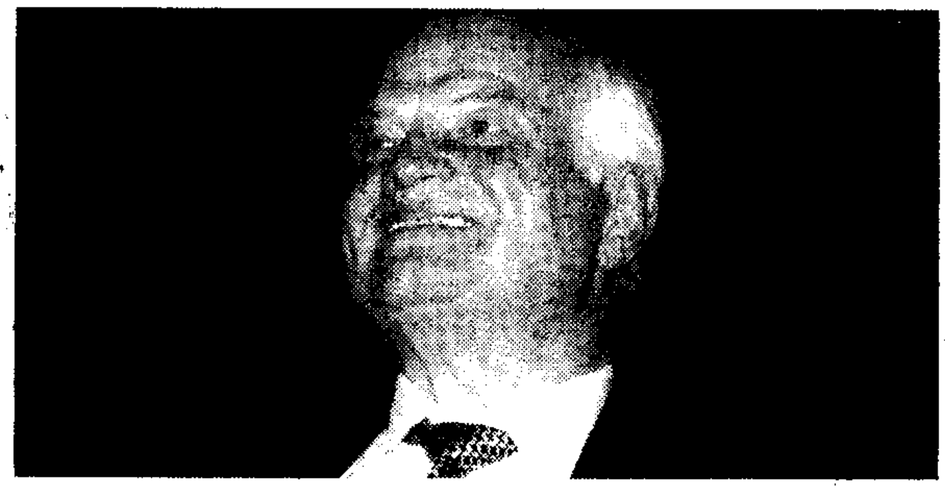
MR Trevor Macdonald, the well-known ITN newscaster and poetry editor of the Daily Telegraph, is to be sued for £10 million by the burger giant McDonald's for appropriating their trade name and attempting to pass himself off as a fast-food outlet *(Full story page 94).*

Those Papal Front Runners In Full

Who will take over the Vatican's No.1 hot-seat?

1. Cardinal Hume *(Britain)*
2. Cardinal Sin *(Philippines)*
3. Bonking Bishop Wright *(somewhere in Wapping)*
4. General Lebed *(Russia)*
5. Sister Wendy Beckett *(White City)*
6. Christina Odone *(Daily Telegraph)*
7. St Norman of Stevas *(Westminster)*
8. St James Goldsmith *(Mexico)*
9. St Gerald of Adams *(Ireland)*
10. Father Ted *(Channel 4)*
11. Father Ted *(Repeat)*





From the Referendum Bunker

Bulletin No. 94

Achtung!

So, Mr Major. I am sorry to hear of your little difficulties with your colleagues. Mr Clarke and Mr Rifkind are making you look foolish with their silly remarks about Europe, nicht wahr?

Your party lacks discipline, Mr Major-Bond. Unlike mine.

Show him Carla!

(A poor little Greek boy is driven on by a sultry Italian temptress in a black leather catsuit, cracking a whip across his back)

This is how we keep our followers in order in the Referendum Party, Mr Major! Mr Taki will now go away and write a very favourable article about me in one of his many columns. Isn't that right, my little underling?

(Greek waiter shouts: "Yes Baas. Anything you say, Baas")

But there is even worse news for you, Mr Major. This week I have announced another world-famous figure who has pledged his loyalty to my Party.

None other than the great financier and former owner of Land's End, Sir Peter de Unsavoury.

With men like this behind me, Mr Bond, how can my plan to take over the world fail?

(Sir Jammy Goldfish presses button and a giant telescreen rises from a lake of molten Marmite. Screen shows fat man with beard on sinking yacht)

And now, Mr Bond, I wish to be alone. I have to put my finishing touches to the historic Party Political Broadcast which you have been forced to concede to me.

Something of an own goal, as you say in your country. I mean my country. Once the nation has seen me on their television screens speaking for twelve hours on the need for firm leadership, your days will be numbered.

(Strokes white rhino on lap, the property of the Aspinall Rhinos 'R Us Theme Park, Maidstone)

Goodbye, Mr Bond. It has been such a pleasure talking to you. Such a pity you have to die.

(Sir Jimjam Fishquota climbs into De Unsavoury's now-underwater yacht and sails off to Atlantis to address meeting of Mermen and Women on the need for a Single European Fish)

Issued by the Referendum Party of Great Britain

(Sir Amex Goldcard, prop.)

ADVERTISEMENT

NOW ON VIDEO!

NATURAL BORN CULLERS

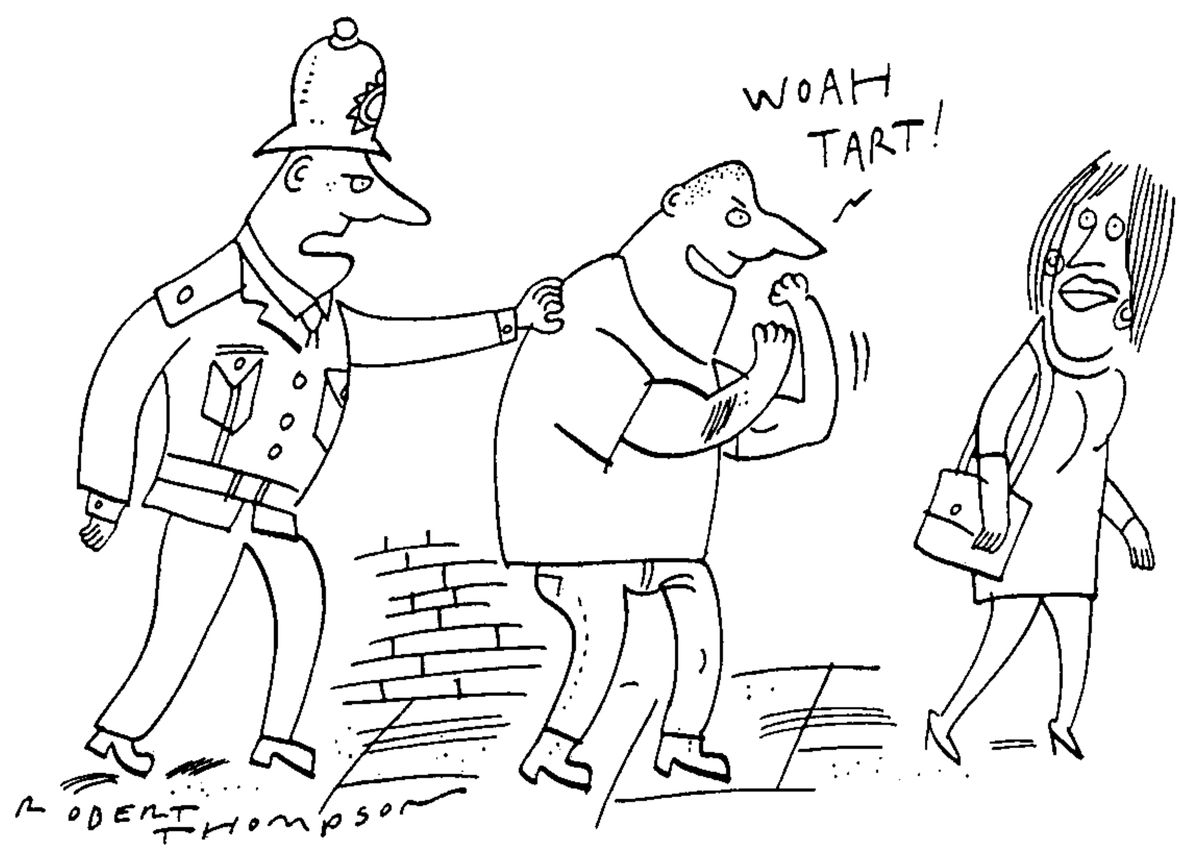
Sickening end-of-the-road movie where crazed mid-Westminster drifters go on an orgy of gratuitous and pointless slaughter.

There's no rhyme or reason. They just do it for the sake of it.

When the media join in they become celebrities and there is no stopping them. From London to Brussels Hogg and Co. rampage through the countryside.

Their motto:
"SHOOT ANYTHING THAT MOOS"

Rating: Very unpleasant and unnecessary



"I'm arresting you for impersonating a police officer"

MYSTIC MAG

Joins the Eye!

Every week Mystic Mag peers into her crystal balls and predicts what is to come.

OCTOBER

WITH Blair in the ascendant I see dark times round the corner. There is chaos everywhere and a tide of filth engulfs the nation. Young people roam the streets aimlessly and the crime figures soar. From the newspapers garbage pours out unchecked. Satellites beam in nauseating pornography 24 hours a day.

And who is to blame?

I see two figures dimly in my balls. Yes, the first is an Australian by the look of him and he is waving a copy of the Sun, shouting "Good on you, Maggie, you made it all possible". And, yes, there alongside him is an aged crone with wild, staring eyes intoning the words "Free Market... No such thing as society... We are a Grandmother... Rejoice". Who can it be?

I see her clearly now. Oh dear, there must be some mistake.

©Magtrash, a division of Murdochtrash International, Digger House, New York.

That Princess Di/Hillary Clintstone Breakfast in full

Whitewatermelon

— ✻ —

Syrupy Waffle

— ✻ —

Hash Brownnose

— ✻ —

Mixed Senate Grill with Staring-Eyed Peas

— ✻ —

Squidgy Prunes with Custody

— ✻ —

To drink:

Clintstant Coffee with Sweeteners

A Doctor writes

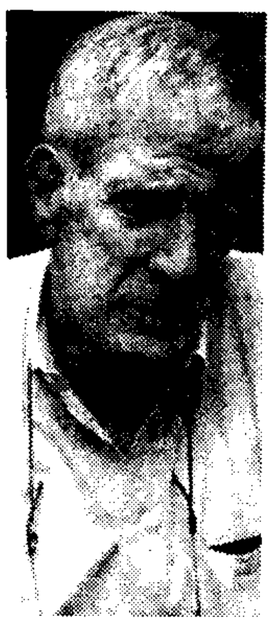
AS a Russian Doctor, I am often asked by President Yeltsin: "Am I dead?"

The simple answer is: "Yes — or 'Da' to give it its full Russian name — but we can't tell anyone."

If you feel you are suffering from a case of Death Syndrome, or, as we doctors call it, *Mortalis kremlinus vodkosis abnormalis*, then you are advised to stay in Lebed.

© World Copyright Pravdeye

Another Doctor writes



AS a Doctor, I am often asked: "Can you shut up? We're trying to watch the film."

The simple answer is "no". I am an extremely important and world-famous opera director and anyone sitting near me in the cinema should be extremely grateful to hear my views on the subject of Francis Ford Coppola's *oeuvre* in the context of late twentieth-century cinematography.

If you are concerned that you might be sitting near me in a cinema, you can lump it.

© A Doctor Jonathan

1 GROAT

THE CAWDOR CHRONICLE & GLAMIS GAZETTE

Oct. 4th 1040

Maxbeth walks free on 'compassionate grounds'

by Our Legal Staff JOSHUA ROSENCRANTZ

MR KEVIN Maxbeth, 43, facing 57 charges of conspiracy in the Dunsinane Crown Court, walked free today, after a judge said that his wife Lady Pandora Maxbeth had "suffered enough".

Mr Justice McCocklecarrot, 106, said: "This lovely lady has been through many sleepless nights as a result of these charges hanging over her husband, and it would be therefore only right to let him off."

The judge added that any trial of Mr Maxbeth would be "bound to last a very long time and cost Scottish taxpayers a great deal of money".

"The evidence," he added, "would be so complicated that they probably wouldn't understand it, and they might well be stupid enough to let him off, which is why I am doing it for them.

"To be honest," said the judge, "I have got better things to do with my time than sit around all day in a courtroom deciding whether people are guilty or not."

An overjoyed Mr Maxbeth said: "I am overjoyed. I am now starting a new business making wool, to pull over people's eyes."

ON OTHER PAGES

Your Thanes Tonight 94
Unfunny Cartoon by MacHeath 95

Poetry Corner

Lines on the Revelation of Inspector Morse's Christian Name

So Inspector
Morse.

Your christian
Name is finally
Known.

It is
Endeavour.

A strange name
For a senior
Policeman.

My name also
Begins with
E.

And it will
Remain a
Mystery for
Ever.

Eric Jarvis Thribb (17½)

WORLD'S OLDEST JOKE DISCOVERED

by Our Archaeological Staff
Howard Carter-Fuck and Tutankhamen-Callil

WHAT is thought to be the world's oldest joke has been discovered by archaeologists in a remote corner of Punch magazine.

The joke is thought to be over 1 million years old and consists of a series of crude irregular lines which appear to show a man marooned on a desert island.

Intense excitement mounted yesterday when Professor Miles Kington of the Institut d'Humour Ancien of Limoges announced that he had carbon-dated the joke to pre-Neanderthal times.

Abunoriginal Art

The world's oldest joke had previously been thought to be a mere 20,000 years old, from the caves in Lascaux, showing a caveman arriving home to find a notice chiselled on a rock by his wife, reading "Your dinner is in the Auvergne". This early joke is thought to be the work of the palaeolithic sub-species Homo Mahoodensis.

A number of fossilised teeth found near the drawing has convinced archaeologists that its purpose was to provide our ancestors with diversion while waiting for the then-painful process of having their teeth extracted by means of strings attached to the tail of a passing dinosaur.

Circulation Down Under

But now the Lascaux finds have been superseded by the extraordinary discovery on page 74 of a copy of this week's Punch found in a waiting room in the Australian outback.

It is thought to be the only copy of the magazine bought anywhere in the world.

David Langdon is 70 million years old.

The 94th Cheltenham Literary Festival
sponsored by
The Daily Telegraph
Speakers include:
Stephen Fry, Jeremy Beadle, Trevor MacDonald, Michael Fish, Ulrika Jonsson, Chris Waddle, Anthea Turner
and
OASIS
(subject to availability of drugs in the Cheltenham area).
Box office enquiries to TV's Charles Moore, the Daily Hellograph, London E14.

SUPERMODELS

DIARY

ADAM PHILLIPS' MONOTONY

1.

Monotony is unexpected, bold, tantalising. There are so many different kinds of monotony, depending on the type of person one is — a person who prefers talking about roads or a person who prefers talking about the weather — that monotony is perversely erotic.

2.

Too many cooks spoil the broth. The broth is spoilt by too many cooks. The paragraph gets bigger with the sentences one places in it. The more sentences one places in it, the bigger the paragraph gets.

But perhaps, after all, the broth always wanted to be spoilt, so as to attract too many cooks?

3.

The separation of the word Monotony into two equal halves — Mono and Tony — begs the question: who's Tony?

Is Tony a single man who pops in from time to time to help with the garden? Or the name of the local fishmonger? Or is he something more than that — a dyadic, a schephelomenon, even a Weltanschauung? Who knows? Without his Mono, Tony — toe, knee — would lack the full body of monotony.

4.

There are two kinds of modern thinker — the thinker who thinks it clever to divide everything into two kinds (two kinds of thinker, two kinds of teabag, two kinds of monotony) and the thinker who prefers flip paradox (Q. When is a paradox not a paradox? A. Now.). I belong to the second kind, the one which doesn't divide everything into two kinds. Or, paradoxically, I would belong to it, if I did. And so you are left wondering: Is there no depth to which this man will not think?

5.

To grow more monotonous, or to struggle against it? There is always something to resist, something to defy. The fascinating are the same as the monotonous: they drive the same cars, their favourite colour is pale green and they call their daughters Sally. Monotony is like cabbages, only spelt differently, and with another meaning.

6.

Death is a necessary ingredient of monotony. In fact, death is a necessary ingredient of so many apercus. The inclusion of death adds grandeur to even the most obvious thought. For monotony by its nature goes on for a long time: like death.

7.

In future, everyone will be monotonous for fifteen minutes. I monotonise, therefore I am.

8.

Monotony makes the heart grow fonder. Most people would not be monotonous if they had not heard monotony spoken of.

9.

Monotony makes the world go round. Monotony, monotony, monotony, that would be fonotony, it's a rich man's world.

10.

Repetition is the memory of repetition. But, on the other hand, repetition is the memory of repetition.

11.

What is the answer? What was the question? What are we doing here? Why are you reading this? Why am I writing it? Questions, questions, questions. At the beginning of a love affair, you ask, "Has there ever been a smile so beautiful, lips so warm and loving?" At the end of a love affair, you ask, "Isn't it about time you learnt to pick your own bloody socks up off the floor?" In a nutshell, this is what disfoundationalistic versionality-based progress narratives are all about. The questions might change, but the monotony remains.

12.

Proust, Eliot, Lacan, Freud, Shakespeare, Klein, Plath, Donne, Jung, Phillips. They all have one thing in common: they are all mentioned here, in section 14 of "Monotony".

13.

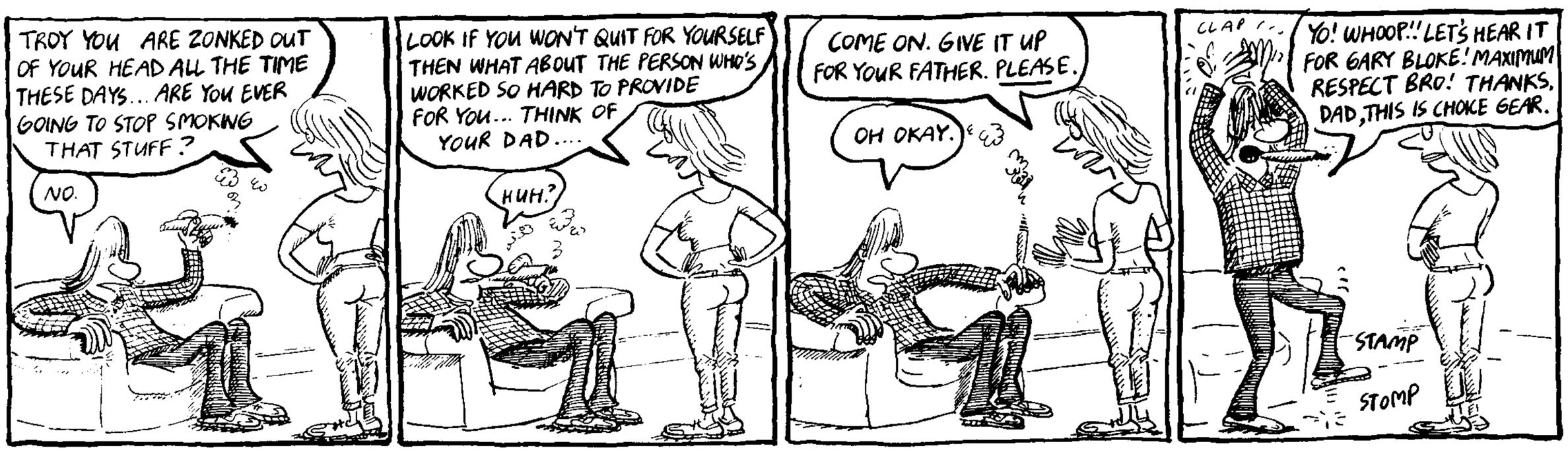
Around the ragged rock, the ragged rascal ran. No. Around the ragged rock, the profoundly ragged rascal ran. No. From a psychoanalytic point of view, around the parallel text of the ragged rock, the profoundly ragged rascal ran, strangely — perversely — disillusioned by the secular religion of monotony.

Yes, that's better.

14.

Just as there are only two kinds of weather — hot and cold — so there are only two kinds of monotony — very monotonous monotony; and not-quite-so monotonous monotony. All monotony is by its very nature monotonous: but no monotony is more monotonous than my monotony: which is what makes it so monotonous.

So there is an end to monotony. Or is the end just another beginning?


TROY YOU ARE ZONKED OUT OF YOUR HEAD ALL THE TIME THESE DAYS... ARE YOU EVER GOING TO STOP SMOKING THAT STUFF?
NO.
LOOK IF YOU WON'T QUIT FOR YOURSELF THEN WHAT ABOUT THE PERSON WHO'S WORKED SO HARD TO PROVIDE FOR YOU... THINK OF YOUR DAD....
HUH?
COME ON. GIVE IT UP FOR YOUR FATHER. PLEASE.
OH OKAY.
CLAP
YO! WHOOP!! LET'S HEAR IT FOR GARY BLOKE! MAXIMUM RESPECT BRO! THANKS, DAD, THIS IS CHOICE GEAR.
STAMP
STOMP

Literary Review

Future imperfect

Cocaine Nights
J.G. Ballard
(Flamingo, £16.99)

EVEN NOW, in his mid-60s, with three-and-a-half decades of the writing life behind him, J.G. Ballard is still the hippest thing on the block.

You don't believe me? An excellent, if cruel, trick sometimes played by literary editors on our senior novelists is to despatch their latest offering to some spiky young iconoclast. As you might imagine, the likes of Dame Iris, Margaret Drabble and Anita Brookner get ritually disembowelled *every time*. Oddly enough, this doesn't happen to Jim. Martin Amis reveres him. Will Self just drools (a compliment Ballard repays, by the way — he selected Self's drug-jottings as his book of the year in no fewer than four national newspapers last December).

Why is this? Well, J.G. has his finger on the pulse, you see; he *knows* about the future — all that inert sky, soulless space cabins and twisted sex. Back in the 60s (*The Drought*, *The Crystal World*) he made sci-fi respectable, and took the marginal into the mainstream. Plus, his pronouncements on the shape of things to come are just *outrageous*. *A User's Guide to the Millennium*, a collection of 30 years' worth of occasional Ballardry published earlier this year, was full of this kind of thing. Brooding on metropolitan blight, J.G. decides that the capital's only hope lies in porn parlours and satellite sites. Driving round the Thames Valley (J.G. lives in Shepperton), he finds "hope" in the Gehenna of concrete and shopping malls.

Inevitably a fair amount of this positioning takes in sex and violence, both of which J.G. is broadly in favour of. David Cronenburg's film of his 70s novel *Crash* is still pending, so greatly have the US distributors taken fright at its brutal verisimilitude. Only last month, in a *Sunday Times* review of a book on film violence, J.G. appended some sober reflections to the effect that there ought to be a whole lot more of it, as graphically depicted as possible, because the men in the audience might then go home and be nice to their wives. They might? Answers on a postcard please, guys.

But J.G.'s real fix is environment: the empty, noiseless plains of future time. Despite its holiday resort setting, *Cocaine Nights* is a paean to the kind of arid future landscape that turns up in nearly all his books. Our hero, Charlie Prentice, arrives at a dinky little Costa del Sol hideaway called Estrella de Mar in search of the truth about his brother Frank. A popular maitre d' at the up market "Club Nautico", Frank is awaiting trial for an arson attack which incinerated five local residents: worse, he's admitted his guilt.

Intrigued as he is by Frank's placid acceptance of his fate, Charlie is even more bewitched by the sated, leisure-led universe he's fetched up in. Driving along the coast he notes "the timelessness of a world beyond boredom, with no past, no future and a diminishing present", "an eventless world". "It's Europe's future," Frank tells him, from his prison cell. "Everywhere will be like this soon."

Weirdness wins out, of course, and from above the sun-loungers and their recumbent designer babes wafts the scent of a fine old stew of porno films, kinky sex, expensive pharmaceuticals and crazed hedonism junkies getting their rocks off. A convincing fable of a leisured society it isn't. Neither, oddly, is it much of a thriller: the nods to future plot direction ought to be printed in bold type, so conspicuous is their intent, while the dialogue proceeds in a series of "So tell me then..." narrative nudges.

Here and there amid the general depravity ("Would you like to bugger me?" the obliging lady doctor demands of Charlie) come a sprinkling or two of Ballard's dazzling metaphors (the coiled hair of a female swimmer that tracks her down the pool like "a faithful watersnake").

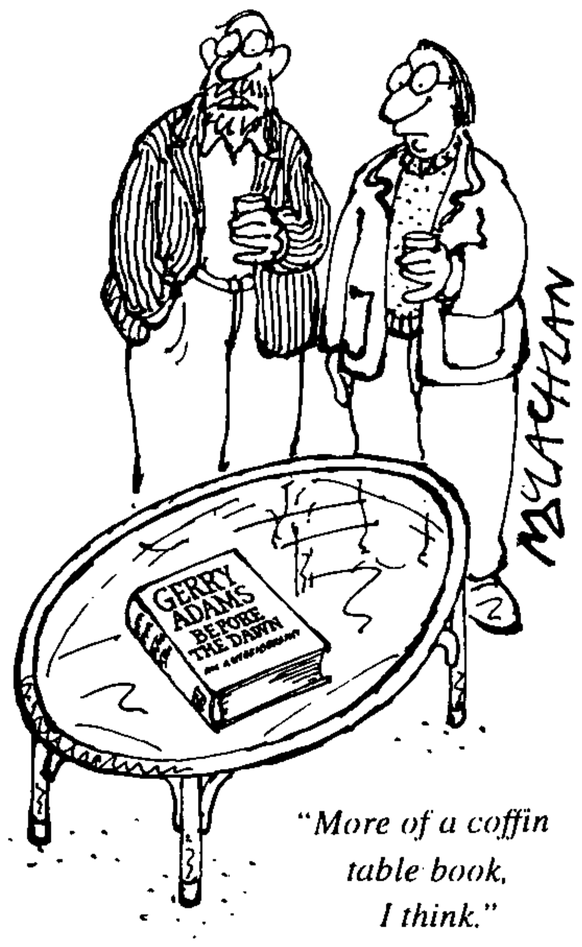
The adjective habitually applied by critics to this type of futurist musing is "denatured". That's what the future's going to be, boys and girls — *denatured*. It should be pointed out, though, that in Ballard's particular case the denaturing is backward- not forward-looking, personal not collective. As a child, Ballard spent some years in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp (the stimulus to one of his finest novels, *Empire of the Sun*). Practically everything he's written in the succeeding 50 years has proceeded out of this juvenile entombment. And it's ironic, to say the least, that each groovy prediction of the silent, hemmed-in future should turn out to be a projection of his own solitary past.

BOOKS & BOOKMEN

■ NOBODY should begrudge valiant Cork-based Brandon press its share of the proceeds from Saint Gerard Adams's latest book — but the much richer Heinemann deserve maximum abuse for letting the author simply pad out *Before the Dawn* with chunks of anecdotes from earlier works.

While it is true that royalties from earlier books have been donated to the republican movement (in one guise or another) but this time the author will keep the cash for himself, suggestions that the bearded pacifist will make huge sums are wide of the mark. His previous titles have hardly troubled the bestseller lists, with even the post-ceasefire *Irish Freedom* performing poorly.

Despite his many previous reminiscences in print, Adams has only now remembered that his first kiss was from a Protestant girl — a memory that comes just in time to boost his liberal image in America. Recklessly, however, Adams has no guarantee that he'll actually be allowed to promote the book there. Publication is scheduled for early next year, well after the presidential election, and there's every possibility the highly principled Bill Clinton will refuse Adams a new entry visa, leaving lots of unsold hardbacks.



"More of a coffin table book, I think."

□ **CRITICS who feared their damning review of A.A. Gill's pitiful *Sap Rising* might tempt people to buy it can rest easy: it is nowhere to be seen on the Bookwatch bestseller list. It does make a listing produced by BookTrack, however — in the 600s. Transworld gave Gill a two-book contract.**

■ ENDING his vitriolic attack on publisher Little, Brown for its rubbishy book *The Tomb of God* on 29 September, the *Observer*'s literary editor Robert McCrum rightly declared: "It is hard to imagine what authors like V.S. Naipaul, Bernice Rubens, Jane Gardam and Janette Turner Hospital [*Who she? Ed.*] are doing on the same list."

But if McCrummie had cast his eye further up the page on which his polemic ended, he would have found a review of another distinguished Little, Brown author: namely Melanie Phillips, whose controversial book about education, *All Must Have Prizes*, has just been published.

FACT: Melanie Phillips was not on McCrum's approved list.

ANOTHER FACT: Melanie Phillips is a columnist on the *Observer*.

'Bookworm'

footnotes

CUCKNEY SPY ROW

SHORTLY before Sir Richard Scott, vice chancellor, published his wimpish report on the arms-to-Iraq scandal, he wrote to everyone who had given evidence in writing or in "closed" session.

He wanted to know if there was any part of their evidence which should be censored. He stressed that he was committed to the maximum possible publication of what had been said and would only agree to censorship if personal safety or national security were in peril.

The evidence was published on CD Rom in July. The *Eye* was specially interested in the "closed" interview of Sir John Cuckney, former chairman of Thomas Cook, Brooke Bond, John Browns, the International Maritime Bureau, director of the Midland Bank and several other companies.

As the *Eye* has often pointed out, Sir John is one of those businessmen who invariably crop up in the headlines at times of major political crisis (for instance he was chairman of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board in its crisis of 1972, and of the Westland helicopter company in 1986). Sir John's legendary influence may not be wholly unconnected with his early years working as a training officer for MI5. It was Cuckney who advised his former MI5 colleague Peter Wright of the "eleventh commandment" of British intelligence: "thou shalt not get caught".

The first page of Sir John's "published" evidence to Scott reads: "Tuesday 19th April, 1994. 9.50am. Evidence of Sir John Cuckney." At this stage, the witness would normally outline his experience and his career. The rest of page one, all page two, all page three and all but nine lines of page four are rigorously blacked out (see picture). Page seven has gone too. So has most of page 16, all of pages 17 and 18, and most of page 20.

READ, MARK, LEARN: Sir John's evidence, p.1

Pages 22-33 are missing altogether. Then the blacking out starts again: all of pages 33 and 34 and most of 35; all but three lines of page 41; all of pages 42, 43, 44, and most of 45. There is nothing after page 48, so no one knows how much more of what Sir John had to say was too secret for the rest of us.

The small uncensored passages are about the sale by the government-owned International Military Services (chairman from 1974 to 1985: Sir John Cuckney) of 29 armoured recovery vehicles to Saddam Hussein's Iraq at the start of the Iran-Iraq war. To disguise the real destination of the vehicles, they were sold to the Jordanian army who flogged them on (for a healthy commission) to Iraq. Sir John said he wasn't at all embarrassed about these sales, even though there was a government embargo on all lethal exports to Iraq. Curiously, however, almost all the sale documents were systematically shredded.

On page 41, after a series of questions about the shredding, Scott concluded: "We will have to ask Mr Orford (chief executive of IMS at the time of the shredding)." This was followed by four blanked-out pages. Someone else who might have been able to help was Mr David Gibbons, a senior commercial officer for IMS. On page six, Scott told Sir John: "I think we sent you a statement which was sent to us by an officer, an employee, Mr Gibbons." What did the statement say about the arms and the shreddings? We shall never know. The next page and five lines are blacked out.

A less privileged spook than Sir John was Mark Gutteridge of MI5. He had worked behind the former Iron Curtain, spying on the Russians. A senior intelligence officer warned in a statement to Scott: "Mr Gutteridge's name should not be revealed because of the additional threat posed by the Soviet intelligence services..." Another MI6 officer told Scott: "We had a continuing and everlasting commitment to ensure that Gutteridge was not exposed as our source. This did not relapse with the end of his usefulness." Scott blandly publishes both statements, including Gutteridge's name and his work in Russia. So while the intelligence background of a distinguished businessman-knight was kept secure, the former agent in the field was exposed.

Butchered (2)

■ MANY thanks to John Butcher, Tory MP for Coventry South West, (see Letters) for adding some important details to the story in *Eye* 904 about the liquidation of his former company, Imagesoft, owing £1.1 million, including £61,983 to the Inland Revenue and £41,559 in national insurance payments; and for so convincingly denying allegations not made in our story.

He explains, for instance, that all the directors "received less than their market value", and does not contest the *Eye*'s figures that in its first year Imagesoft had a turnover of £115,480, and paid its directors £97,416.

J. BUTCHER MP

Mr Butcher, who was for six years Mrs Thatcher's minister for industry with special responsibility for the West Midlands, has had rotten luck with his new companies. In 1994, with quite a fanfare, he teamed up with Paul Henderson, the main defendant in the doomed Matrix Churchill trial, to take over the reins of a West Midlands firm called Production Systems International. The company's losses continued, however, and in November last year PSIL and its trading subsidiaries, Welding Machines Automated, Cox and Wright, Hulley and Reeder and Welding Machines (Robotics), appointed Ernst & Young as joint nominees for a company voluntary arrangement under the insolvency act.

Under this system, the company continues to trade under the supervision of accountants appointed by the court, with the sole aim of paying off the creditors. At the time of the arrangement, Production Systems International owed £32,172; Cox and Wright £435,444; and Welding Machines Automated £524,686. Mr Butcher predicted profits of £217,000 for this year, and £413,000 the next. The creditors are very much hoping his forecast will be vindicated so they can get at least some of their money back.

Spot the difference

"We have treated the evidence given both orally and in writing by Mr Cowley and Mr Gerald James as true with respect to the matters in which they were directly involved. On such matters, the evidence of Mr Cowley and Mr James has been confirmed by the evidence of others, including the ministry of defence."

— House of Commons trade and industry select committee report on exports to Iraq, chairman Kenneth Warren MP, 13 March 1992.

"From listening to, observing and reading the evidence given by Gerald James to the select committee on trade and industry, I came to the conclusion, to put it as mildly as possible, that he was an unreliable witness."

— Sir Kenneth Warren's written evidence to the Scott inquiry, 15 February 1994 — just published.

FOULDS PLAY

"IF EVERYTHING goes according to plan, the conversion is likely to take place in the summer of 1997, probably in June."

Thus the leaflet issued to puzzled lenders and borrowers at the country's biggest building society, the newly-merged Halifax and Leeds. The "conversion" from building society to bank was originally expected some time this year. Judging from the "if" and "likely" in the leaflet, it may not even happen next year. Indeed, it may not happen at all. Suddenly, the glories of bank status don't seem so marvellous.

The problems are as follows.

SACKINGS. The only way for the new bank to make lots of money for its directors is by sacking lots of staff. But in July, in a fit of conscience, the Halifax promised "it would manage the changes without compulsory redundancies" (*Financial Times*, 24 July). On 21 August, less than a month after his bold pledge, Halifax chairman Jon Foulds was whining that "an earlier promise of no compulsory redundancies could not be guaranteed indefinitely" (*Independent*).

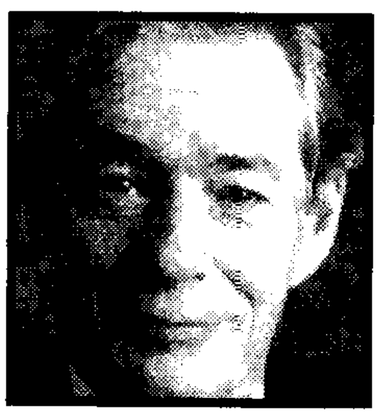
HALIFAX

OPTIONS. Everyone knows that the only point of "conversion" is to enrich directors and shareholders. To foil the cynics, Jon Foulds promised that directors of the new bank would not give themselves share options -- the easiest way to big money. Shocked, the directors point to the Nationwide, a "mutual" society without shareholders, where the directors have enriched themselves beyond the dreams of avarice by simply awarding themselves huge bonuses. Why should directors bother to convert to a bank if they can get rich perfectly easily without the change?

BRIBES. The measly pay-out to lenders and borrowers to bribe them to vote for conversion is fraught with complications. What about joint accounts between partners in the same house, for instance? The Halifax has ruled that only the first name, usually a man, will get the pay-out. Now they are worried by the threat of embarrassing legal actions alleging sex discrimination.

GOVERNMENT. The rush to bank status increases the influence of the government. Directors seethed, for instance, when first secretary Heseltine recently and publicly named the Halifax as a major contributor to the millennium celebrations without even consulting the board.

If the Halifax does drop the conversion, it will be a strange experience for chairman Jon Foulds, once the high priest of mutuality, now the high priest of bank status and then a high priest of mutuality all over again.



TURN AND turn again? Jon Foulds

MY DEAR WATSON

■ AN application to store radioactive waste in a set of old lock-up garages has caused consternation in Culham, Oxfordshire.

The district council refused planning permission, but now the county council, which insists it is responsible for waste, has granted it.

This has horrified parents and children at the European school, a few hundred yards from the site. They have been shocked by the news that the space allotted for the waste would take 1,000 drums of radioactive material, some of it dangerous enough to require additional shielding.

The company dumping the waste is Safeguard International, which is made up of Amersham International, one of the first companies to be privatised by the Thatcher government, and AEAT Technology, part of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy, which is being privatised now. AEAT's chairman, Dr Peter Watson, knows all the advantages of privatisation. He recently collected £4 million when the railway leasing company Porterbrook, which he chaired, working one day a month, was flogged off to Stagecoach. This represented half a million pounds for every working day. For some reason, the prospectus for shareholders in AEAT doesn't mention the costs of decommissioning the Culham site.

The dump needs a licence from the new anti-pollution quango, the Environment Agency. The agency, which refuses to meet the protestors, says a final decision will be taken on 7 October. Amersham International and AEAT are optimistic the licence will be granted.

FACT TO REMEMBER: Ed Gallagher, chief executive of the Environment Agency, and Miles Young, public affairs director, both came to the agency from top jobs in — well, you've probably guessed it already: Amersham International.

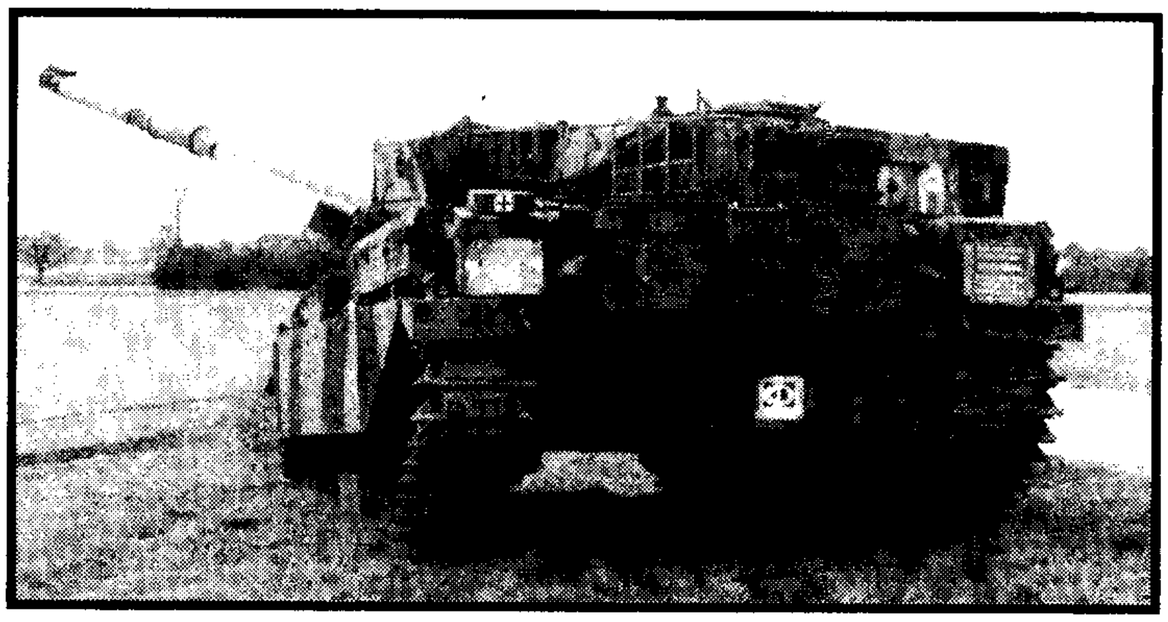
Tanks for nothing

■ WHILE he lays into the chancellor and other Europhiles in the government, the florid-faced baronet, name at Lloyd's and Tory MP for Upminster Sir Nicholas Bonsor is beset by a little local difficulty in his country seat, Liscombe Park, near Leighton Buzzard, Buckinghamshire.

Bonsor has sold a chunk of the land at Liscombe for development by Liscombe Holdings plc, a company run by fashionable accountant Martin Darvill. The purchase price was a handsome £1.45 million. Into the bargain, the generous baronet lent the company £300,000 interest free, to be paid back in monthly instalments of £2,500 for 10 years. When he became minister of state at the foreign office in June last year, Sir Nicholas had to resign as president of Liscombe Holdings, but he still declares a "registrable" shareholding: 123,334 preference shares to be exact.

Worried neighbours in the villages of Soulbury and Wing were originally reassured that the development would involve nothing more than a golf course, a few tasteful barn conversions and more shooting on the estate by famous Darvill clients like Ian Botham and Allan Lamb. A popular feature of the plan was the prospect of more jobs for the locals, beating up birds for the sporting stars to shoot.

Now, the barn conversions have turned into a film studio — not to mention rock music studios, advertising agencies and media consultancies. Peaceful fields on the estate have been flattened by 21 army surplus tanks and armoured vehicles run by Tanks-A-Lot, a firm which offers "corporate entertainment" (energetic businessmen amusing themselves by charging at each other in tanks and firing blank ammunition).



A FUN DAY OUT: One of Bonsor's tanks

Darvill's latest idea is to build a new, rather obtrusive sound studio for making feature films. Aylesbury Vale council has made it clear that it will not be granting planning permission for such a project, but the company is unruffled. It says it will appeal against any such council decision — to Sir Nicholas's ministerial colleagues at the department of the environment.

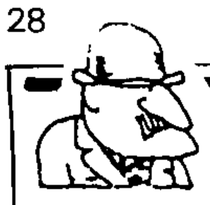
PETER'S FRIENDS

■ PETER AIKENS got a tremendous press when he moved in 1990 from the main board of Courage to become chief executive of Matthew Clark, the drinks firm. The *Financial Weekly* (27 July 1990) burbled: "The appointment is expected to produce a far-reaching and beneficial restructuring."

Five years later, on taking over Taunton Cider, Mr Aikens made a far-reaching and beneficial restructuring decision to move the firm's headquarters from Guildford to Somerset. Mr Aikens sold his handsome home at Reigate and moved to an even more handsome one a hundred miles away at Shepton Mallett. To help with the move, Mr Aikens got a record £431,000 "relocation" expenses, including £68,000 in compensation for a higher price he might have got for his Reigate house if he had not had to sell it so quickly.

It all seemed worth it in August, when stockbrokers Panmure Gordon advised its clients to buy Matthew Clark shares at 608 pence. But there was a hitch. The brilliant Mr Aikens had not realised that the new craze for Alco-Pops might affect the cider market. The share price has slumped to 318 pence. Will Mr Aikens survive, or will he have to charge someone else for moving house again?

You can write to Paul Foot at 6 Carlisle Street, London W1V 5RG, or leave a message for him on 0171 287 3183



In the City

SACKED Morgan Grenfell fund manager Peter Young must be hoping his hot shot lawyers at Peters & Peters can do a better job fending off the Serious Farce Office than they have done in dealing with Sandra, Tracy and the Polaroid pictures.

A flurry of writs and injunctions has so far prevented publication of tasteful studies of the fun (*sic*) manager of the year being given professional relief for executive stress at Sandra and Tracy's offices in London's Gloucester Place. But now everyone knows another of his little secrets; and all that's missing are the details. Whether, therefore, the needy as well as greedy "Polaroid" is better off is open to doubt. Are his sexual peccadilloes more harmful than his financial ones?

Morgan Grenfell unitholders, if not his wife, might at least be amused by the "photograph or photographs taken by the defendant (Sandra) of the plaintiff (Young) on the plaintiff's Polaroid camera in or about October 1995". Similarly, they and many others might be intrigued to learn what exactly was "said or done by the plaintiff to the defendant or in the defendant's presence on the occasions of the plaintiff's visits to the defendant at the said premises between June and December 1995". Presumably nothing to do with investment advice.

A court order also bans Sandra or that leading Christian Rupert Murdoch and his *News of the Screws* from revealing "anything said or done by the plaintiff or Sandra or a person called Tracy or in their presence on the occasions of the plaintiff's visits to Sandra or Tracy at the said premises". At least now Young's colleagues know why the bespectacled actuary had a smile on his face and a gross of condoms in his desk.

The fun manager's extracurricular activities might have remained unknown had he not decided, David Mellor-like, to parade his loyal and supportive (but presumably not sufficiently understanding) wife Harmanna and children at the gate of his £450,000 home. This seemingly jogged Sandra's memory about her former client who liked to photograph his partying and caused her to seek to pep up her own portfolio's performance with an injection of cash — if not from "Polaroid" then from a tabloid.

This brought Peters & Peters' Kathryn Garbett into the (legal) action with injunctions seeking the return of the pictures of "Polaroid" at play which the overworked and overexcited suit had left at Gloucester Place. (A lawyer writes: *As the photographs were taken on his camera, "Polaroid" would be able to claim they were his copyright. Similarly, as he had entered into a contract for services with Sandra, it could be a breach of contract for her to reveal any details of the said services, even "gross misconduct", for which "Polaroid" was himself sacked.*)

It might seem rather odd that a sacked City suit who has cost his employers more than £200 million in withdrawn funds and could lose them up to a further £180 million through his bizarre investments should be able to prevent the kind of "fuck and tell" tale others of greater eminence and less guilt have had to endure? It surely can have nothing to do with the SFO investigation or any civil recovery action — unless Sandra and Tracy were on the investors' tab.

Investigators acting for Morgan Grenfell are zeroing in on the role of Russ Oil & Technology, a Luxembourg brass plate set up by "Polaroid" to act as both a warehouse for highly speculative shares he wanted to hide from Morgans and possibly an offshore pot of money. They are also examining how he came to be able to buy a £450,000 house for cash when his former semi was sold for less than half that amount. Young claimed he had obtained a loan; but there is no evidence of a loan secured on the Amersham property. It is also understood that a £10m loan from fund money was planned but cancelled.

The Swiss lawyers Wiler & Wolf, who set up the Young network of letter box companies, are now cooperating with accountant Ernst & Young, which is seeking to trace the Morgan money. It would appear that the funds paid all their fees and other costs involved in creating the letter box network through which "Polaroid" hid his investments.

The combined criminal and civil investigations are likely to confirm that, just as at Gloucester Place, "Polaroid" was not acting alone.

No doubt the Sandra/Tracy revelations and tales of his purchasing 30 jars of pickled gherkins to feed the family will all help "Polaroid" mount the "guilty but insane" defence of a good man under pressure to perform from greedy bosses cracking from the strain and running amok. Suspended sentence and big legal aid fees all round?

YOUNG must hope he runs into Mr Justice Buckley when his date with destiny arrives: a tearful performance from his wife and everyone will be home free like Kevin Maxwell and his cohorts!

Buckley's halting of Maxwell Two starkly illustrates once again the inability of the British judicial system to deal with complex fraud (aided by the refusal of many judges still to see suits behaving badly as a serious crime).

Just as the "fragrant" Mary Archer helped rescue the great storyteller from the allegations of a common prostitute, and insider dealer Geoffrey Collier's wife kept him out of prison, so the "obvious distress" of a weeping Pandora Maxwell helped to save not only Kevin Maxwell but three others from facing charges it had always been intended by the initial trial judge they should face for pillaging pension and company funds.

Pandora's tears weighed more than the verdict of Buckley's fellow judge Mr Justice Millett, who previously found Maxwell junior guilty of repeatedly lying to bankers over the very matters on which he was to stand trial.

Judges like Maxwell One's Lord Justice Phillips refuse to have omnibus fraud trials because they are said to be too complex, too long and too burdensome for jurors. Phillips made the same bad decision with the same result on Barlow Clowes. But unless all the defendants are convicted at the "shorter" trial it creates a publicity-double jeopardy problem for those who are acquitted.

Phillips must have assumed the Maxwells would go down, so a second trial was academic — otherwise why not see the risk! But how much longer than 120 days would a strictly run trial of all 10 charges and six defendants have taken?

Another part of the problem is that while judges are only too happy to jail robbers, terrorists and sometimes rapists without missing a beat, all too many feel sympathy for any guilty suit who has merely robbed with a pen and whose family is tearfully standing by. But as Mr Justice Henry pointed out in 1990 before sentencing the Guinness Four to jail

THE ALREADY much criticised SFO is bracing itself for the possibility that there may be no further Maxwell trials.

Those with knowledge of the case suggest Buckley could be sympathetic to the Maxwell argument.

Eye told you so, last issue

time, white collar criminals always have families who will be hurt by their going to prison. So do most of those in prison. The difference is that they live on council estates and their children asking "Is Daddy coming home tonight?" counts for nothing.

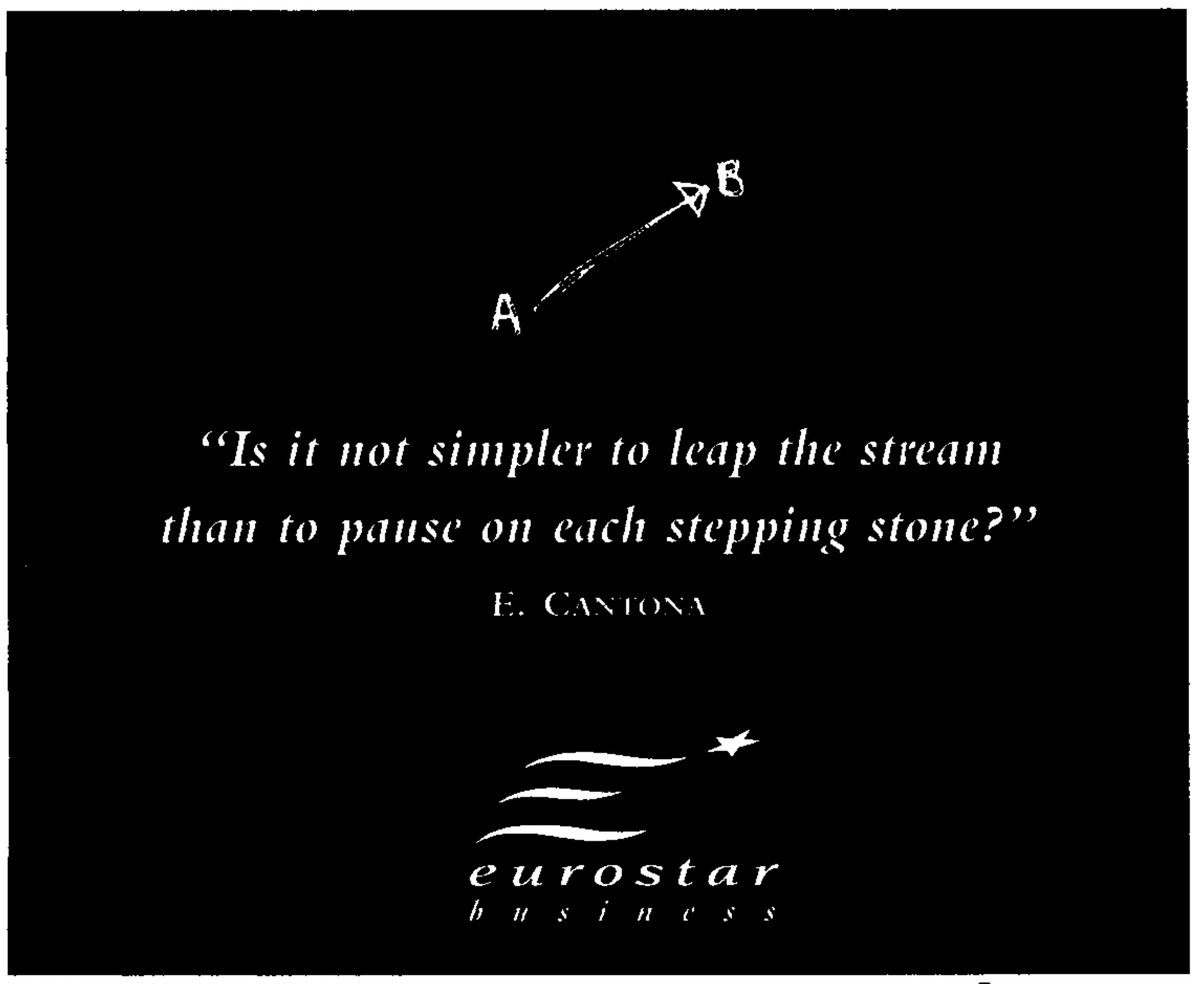
The Buckley judgment now leaves the Department of Timidity & Inaction with twin ticking problems on its hands. The DTI report into the Mirror Group Newspapers flotation (due next year), like that awaited on Guinness, may incriminate/convict those already found innocent by the courts. Whether the DTI is up for publication remains to be seen. Perhaps, as with the Fayeds, it will take the view that a damning report will replace the need to take anyone to court.

While the DTI report is pending, the Radio Authority may not rush to accept the liar Kevin Maxwell as being a "fit and proper" person to takeover two radio stations from the rapist Owen Oyston.

Meanwhile, those left wondering about that remarkable first Maxwell verdict might dwell on how and why members of the first jury that acquitted Kevin and Ian Maxwell came to attend the Buckley hearing?

'Slicker'

eurostar. direct to brussels.



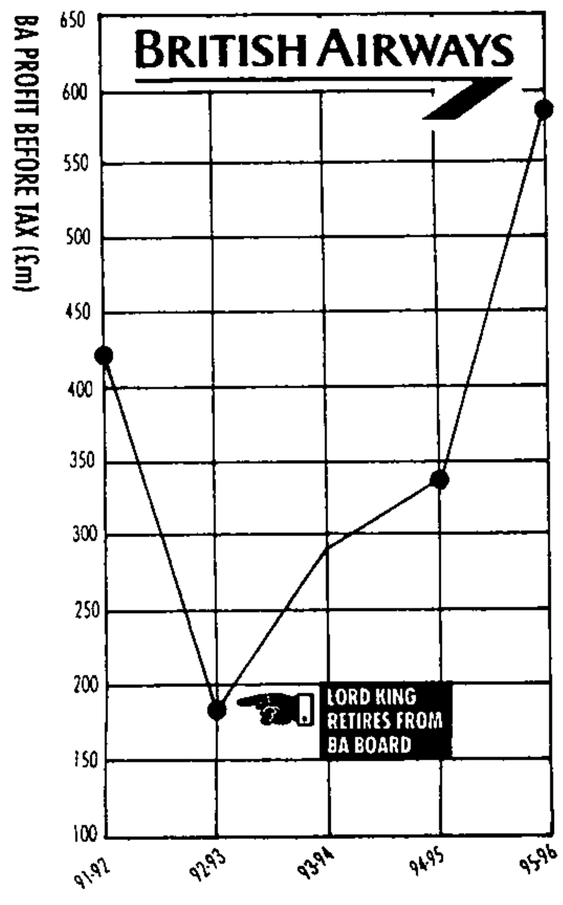
0345 303030 or see your travel agent

ITV - Sky News GB

Novotel Lyon/Brun TV choice

British Management Part 43.

LORD KING OF WARTNABY (Episode 2). Former Chairman Babcock International, Director Daily Telegraph, Lady Thatcher's "favourite businessman". Chairman British Airways until 1993.



GRRRAND NATIONAL WINNER

Just roll it round your tongue.

GRRRAHAM'S
PORT

W. & J.
GRAHAM'S
THE PORT OF AUTHORITY

SPACEMAN
Culture Catalogue

Over 35 Titles of books on 60s counterculture, marijuana cultivation & use, the hallucinogens and more.
The spaceman also offers an exclusive range of bongs, Pipes, papers, scales, Dutch seeds & legal highs

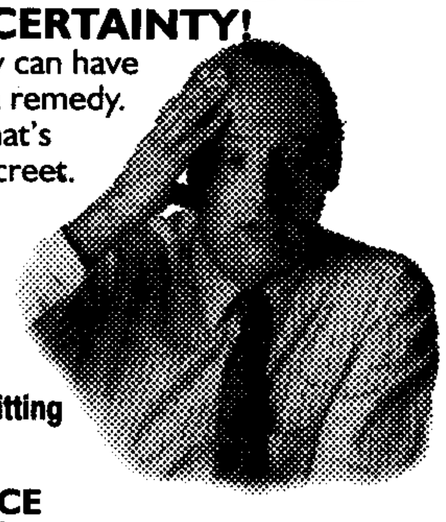
Call the **SPACEMAN** hotline for your catalogue **NOW**
0114 231 3648

Star of 'They Think it's All Over'
LEE HURST
PLUS SPECIAL GUEST
Autumn Tour 1996

FOR TOUR DATES RING THE LEE HURST INFORMATION LINE
Tel: 0181-93-83-73-3

DISCREET
SURVEILLANCE
EQUIPMENT ENDS UNCERTAINTY!

Whether it's commercial or personal, disloyalty can have catastrophic results. Fortunately there is now a remedy. Lorraine Electronics provide personal advice that's dependable, reliable and more importantly, discreet. You can write or telephone in confidence for advice or simply to request a free catalogue.



■ **UHF Crystal Controlled Room and Telephone Transmitters** ■ **Body Wires and Wire Taps** ■ **Radio and Computer Controlled Systems** ■ **Specialist Receivers and Recorders** ■ **Recording and Transmitting Briefcases** ■ **Counter Surveillance Equipment**

LORRAINE ELECTRONICS SURVEILLANCE
716 Lea Bridge Road, London E10 6AW
0181-558 4226
PROTECTING YOUR BEST INTERESTS FAX 0181 558 1338
VISA PE

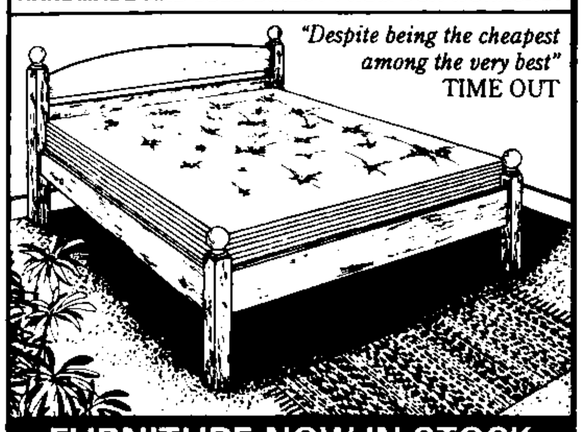
BEST BANG since the BIG ONE

- Display quality **Fireworks** available direct to the public - mail order
- Celebrate Weddings and Birthdays with a **BANG.**
- Full range of Kits suitable for any event.
- Comprehensive safety instructions with every pack.

All goods meet British Standard BS7114 part 2 1988

MOSTLY HARMLESS
For a FREE Brochure and Firework Guide call the Mostly Harmless ORDER HOTLINE
Tel 0117 955 0284 Fax 0117 963 6236

TAURUS PINE BEDS
HANDMADE AND SOLD DIRECT FROM OUR WORKSHOP



"Despite being the cheapest among the very best" TIME OUT

FURNITURE NOW IN STOCK
242 KILBURN HIGH ROAD LONDON NW6
OPEN SEVEN DAYS
FREE BROCHURE 0171 624 3024

"The Labour Party exists to further the interests not of the few but of the many, the broad majority of the British people. That is its purpose." Tony Blair

Call our 24-hour membership hotline. Please quote ref: B85
0990 300 900 Labour
National call rates apply. Calls should cost no more than 10p per minute.

specialEYEs

meeting people

SIRIUS

The Intelligent Person's Introduction Agency

Call free (24 hrs) on 0800 072 0075 for

- Brochure
- Descriptions of the first 24 people in your area you may wish to meet
- CD or Tape with further details

FREEPOST 305 London EC1B 1SY

The Largest and Longest Established agency with personal interviews

Wherever you live your local representative is likely to be within 25 miles

8.30am to 10pm 7 days/wk

---

drawing down *the* moon

THE THINKING PERSON'S INTRODUCTION AGENCY

"the agency people rave about"

COSMOPOLITAN

Adam & Eve Mews, Kensington

0171-937 6263

24 hours

ABIA code supported by Office of Fair Trading. Est.1984

gifts

GENUINE BIRTHDAY NEWSPAPERS

From famous archive saved from1642-1995. Also Sunday Newspapers from 1915. Ready for presentation. Same day dispatch.

REMEMBER WHEN

520 Purley Way, Croydon CR0 4RE.

0181 688 6323

CHRISTMAS GAMES

It's shit & fun!

TOILET HUMOUR — A deck of 56 turd pieces, Fart & Flush cards. Players compete to lay the most crap on the table! Hilarious & unique gift, send £6.99 (inc P&P) or tel / fax credit card details to:

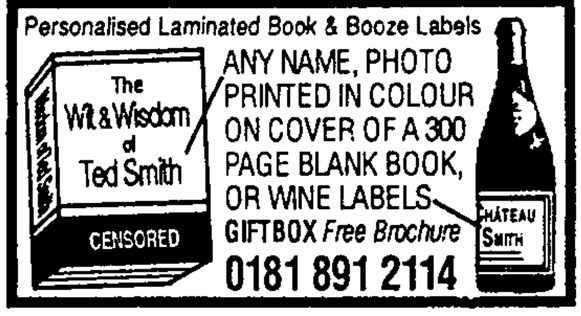
Phil O'Neill games (PE)

FREEPOST, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 8BR

Tel (01983) 280666 (24hr) Fax (01983) 280777

SAY IT WITH BOOKS OR BOOZE

Personalised Laminated Book & Booze Labels



ANY NAME, PHOTO PRINTED IN COLOUR ON COVER OF A 300 PAGE BLANK BOOK, OR WINE LABELS.

GIFTBOX *Free Brochure*

0181 891 2114

UNCLE GEORGE'S FART MACHINE

An ingenious amusement device (not a cushion) affording TOTAL CONTROL and HOURS OF ODOURLESS FUN. Perfect stocking filler/ gift/executive toy. £2.50 ea. + 30p P&P. 4 or more postage free. Cheques/postal orders to: The Ho-Ho Co., PO Box 91, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 5YU. Trade enquiries welcome: Fax 01285 740760

It's time to get your Yo Ho Hos out of the loft!

Yes, Christmas is coming. Only 5 more issues between now and Christmas. **Call Irene on 0171 437 2717 to book your advertising.**

Merde, il pleut.
£18.50 (+£1.50 P&P)
Available in: RED/WHITE, BLUE/WHITE, GREEN/WHITE
Cheques/P.O.s to: 'OVERHEADS', 1Wick Close Abingdon Oxon OX14 2NQ

Choice of design:-
(state Colour/Design when ordering)

1. *Merde, il pleut.*
2. *Typical. Absolutely typical.*
3. *I don't believe it !*

or your own personal design +£5.00

internet

enames

SECURE YOUR UNIQUE INTERNET NAME !

REGISTER URGENTLY ! AVAILABILITY IS VERY LIMITED AND GOING FAST !

FREEPHONE 0800 838 222

services

Problem Drinking

WE CAN HELP!

Castle Craig RESIDENTIAL CLINIC

for understanding, caring treatment and recovery from alcoholism and other addictions. Private, Corporate or NHS. ISO9002 accredited. Medically directed specialist clinical programme. 47 acre private grounds.

FOR BROCHURE, PHONE

01721 752625

Or write to Castle Craig Clinic, Blyth Bridge, Peebles EH46 7DH.

SPEECHWRITING SERVICES

CORPORATE • SOCIAL • POLITICAL

Fully Customised and confidential

MAKE EM LAUGH OR NO FEE!

Emergency Speeches Undertaken

Britain's leading Professional

MITCH MURRAY

01624 622660

Access - Visa - Mastercard

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SERVICE

seeks contracts – anything considered, especially Research, PR & Copywriting. Efficient, erudite staff of wide experience.

0171-708 1716.

07000 CONDOM

How many phone numbers can you remember?

07000 CONDOM BLOWS THE COMPETITION AWAY

Your customers **don't forget an easy** number

Try it using the letters on your phone keypad, dial *07000...*

DESPATCH	*337728*
4 A TEMP	*428367*
THE BANK	*843226*
THE COLA	*843265*
THE CARD	*843227*
4 SPEED	*477333*
TRANSIT	*872674*
4 SPECS	*477327*
NEXTDAY	*639832*
BY MAIL	*296245*
CONDOM	*266366*
4 A ROOM	*427666*
4 A STAR	*427827*
4 ENERGY	*436374*
4 VALUE	*482583*
DARLING	*327546*
MOVE-IT	*668348*
ONE-STOP	*663786*
THE BEST	*843237*
4 A QUOTE	*427868*

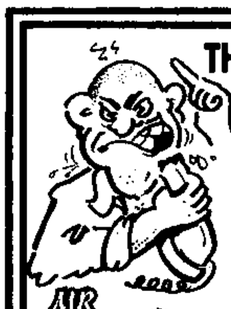
It's that easy.

SOLD IN PACKS OF ONE

BUY ONE AND GET A RESULT

alpha*dial *07000 CONDOM

C:2 O:6 N:6 D:3 O:6 M:6



THE FUNNIEST WAY TO WIND UP A FRIEND!

Call one of the numbers below, put it through to a mate - then wait for the reaction!!!

MR FURY 0336 426 381

AIR FURY!

MY DAUGHTER'S PREGNANT 0336 426 382

YOU OWE THE TAX INSPECTOR 0336 426 383

IRATE DELIVERY DRIVER 0336 426 384

LOVERS AFFAIR EXPOSÉ 0336 426 385

Jokelines, PO Box 43 Warminster Wilts BA12 7RJ
Calls cost 39p/min cheap 49p/min other times

---

13 An Invitation 25

Perm-it(UK) are now taking applications from people wishing to join a syndicate betting on the Irish lottery. 35 8 The perm used covers all 42 numbers and your low-cost participation fee will cover you for 12 consecutive entries. Multiple winnings are a distinct possibility. 41 For a membership form and full details telephone 11

0121 440 4726 or 0121 779 3507

or write to

Perm-it(UK) Office 2S, Group House, Mackadown Lane, Birmingham B33 0LQ.

fireworks

Display FIREWORK PACKS
with Standard Fireworks
FOR A COPY OF OUR BROCHURE OF QUALITY FIREWORK DISPLAY PACKS from £85 to £850
CALL NON-STOP PARTY DIRECT
Free ON 0500 575957

FIREWORK FACTORY

PARTIES?
SUMMER FESTIVAL?
BIRTHDAY?

FOR YOUR EVENT IN 1996 CALL THE AWARD WINNING FIREWORK FACTORY DISPLAY TEAM **01462 442941**

personal

Public Notice *the Phone Café*

24 HRS

CONFUSED BY THE REST?

WHERE ALL THE WOMEN ARE GENUINE CALLERS

0891 30 31 71

Calls Cost 39p/min cheap rate 49p/min all other times
TPC. Box No 28. 93 Cowcross St. London. EC1M 6BH

PRIVATE EYE SMALLS

Classified Lineage Advertisements

£1.75 per word inclusive

0171 439 1151

Deadline for next issue — **Tuesday 8th October**

QUOTE

The rationing regulations of World War II had privileged exceptions. The story goes that a housewife, queuing for some special delicacy like liver, reached the counter to be told that it was only available for pregnant women. "Hold my place!" she commanded. "I'll be back in 20 minutes."

DAVID JONES, Guardian

AYE IAN! Happy Birthday. Love from Michelle xxx.

THE NEMESIS FILE — full refund obtained.

SPEECHWRITING by MITCH MURRAY. See Page 30.

ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING printed onto a T-shirt! PLUS "Ultimate Wind-Up Kit" (spoof letters/pisstakes galore — £9.99!) Christmasmungus!! A.P.P.S. 26 Thurnham Street, Lancaster LA1 1XU, 01524 841286 (daytimes). Bulk/trade enquiries welcome.

BIRTHDAY DUE? Give newspaper dated day they were born. 01492 531195.

ONE WHO VIEWS LIFE through rose-tinted spectacles is blind to rose-tinted reality. RITA CANCONE.

NAUGHTY CRACKERS — for any sort of occasion. Stag/Hen/Office/Dinner Parties — any number. Brochures on request. Telephone: 01323 833138.

JUMBO JET SIMULATOR — gift vouchers available. 01444 484778.

IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT, framed watercolour portraits painted from photographs — only £45. Money back guarantee. SAE for details. MCT SERVICES, Dept A, PO Box 123, Burnley, Lancashire BB12 8GB.

FREE WILDFLOWER catalogue. BRANAS, Llandderfel, Gwynedd, LL23 7RF.

LIVE CARICATURISTS! 0181 520 7262.

BALLOON SAFARIS — around London/South East — gift vouchers 0784 451007.

TOILET HUMOUR — see faecing page. 01983 280666.

BALLOON FLIGHTS Berks/ Hants/ Herts/Oxon/Surrey and over London! £115 — ADVENTURE BALLOONS 0181-840 0108.

BIRTHDATE / ANNIVERSARY newspapers — FREEPHONE 0800 906609.

YOUR CRICKET GIFT problems solved. Unusual cricket gifts and trophies. Ring for CRICKETER GIFT CATALOGUE, 01892 740697.

TEACHERS—DOCTORS & Nurses — firemen — flying ducks — cops & robbers: SAE for wall-plaque catalogue: SAE for wall-plaque catalogue: INTO DESIGN, 28 Eastern Place, Brighton. (Access/Visa) 01273 606240.

CARICATURES FROM photos — 01633 877768.

NAME A STAR for the one you love. INTERNATIONAL STAR REGISTRY allocates and registers name of your choice in USA & Switzerland. Fab gift pack includes splendid colour certificate inscribed in calligraphy and star chart pinpointing exact location. £55 inclusive. Call Freephone 0800 212493 or write ISR, Freepost, 24 Highbury Grove, London N5 2BR.

TRACKS OF YOUR YEARS — The Official UK Music Charts listings reproduced from any week since March 1960. Ideal gift for music fans. Freephone 0800 2799888.

JOKE PARKING TICKETS. Wind up friends/enemies! £4 — 0589 507524 after 5pm.

ARTY FARTY super seat! Astound friends, mother-in-law too. ART LOOVEAUX brings new life to it. 0181 428 1101.

TURN YOUR favourite snapshot into a large 1000 piece Jigsaw Puzzle, 27" by 19". Attractively boxed with 10 word personalised label for £29.99 including UK P/P. Send 35mm negative and photoprint, text, address and cheque to BEGG TODIFER Ltd, 8 Woodville Park, Glasgow G51 2RL. Delivery 21 days.

A TITLE FOR A TENNER? Oh yes! Details from SURVIVAL, Durn Cottage, Scotscalder, Scotland KW12 6XJ.

VICTOR LEWIS-SMITH'S hilarious new album "NUISANCE CALLS". A disgraceful collection of celebrity phone calls that the BBC refused to broadcast now available on cassette. Send cheques/postal orders for £8.99 to: ARTV, PO Box 6, Millom, LA19 5GA. More details on http://www.lewis-smith.com

CARTOONCRAFT — personalised cartoon (from photographs). Super gifts — birthdays, anniversaries and Christmas etc. Phone 01865 511567.

HUMOROUS CARICATURES — photos/live, 01327 359213.

ONLY THE HORSE born in a paddock can truly appreciate the open gate. RITA CANCONE.

DOCTOR UNDERTAKING research Fellowship requires furnished accommodation in Nice for family of four, January-June 1997. Telephone 0121 427 3503.

MARRIED, RESPONSIBLE, mature student couple desperately seek cheap/free accommodation in Oxford. Anything considered. Please help. Box 4008.

EROTICA — New, second-hand and antiquarian books. Please send £2.50 for full catalogue to: DELECTUS, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N 3XX.

LOGS DELIVERED — London, 10 x 40lb sacks £58. OAK/ASH £65. 0181 691 4984.

WONDERFUL ORIGINAL ART — The Gallery, North Street, Winchcombe, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

EVERGREEN HYDROPONICS (UK) NEW Quantum-ponics! distributor Europe: ECO nutrients (dry/liquid), lights/kits/accessories for your every need! (Brighton) 01273 623136

OLD PERSIAN RUGS — In our 25th year our Autumn marquee sale of old oriental rugs at our Kent Country House is 5th-6th OCTOBER. Mostly £100-£3000. Card with details, map & £50 voucher for rugs over £150, from DESMOND NORTH, The Orchard, Hale Street, East Peckham TN12 5JB. 01622 871353.

IF MUSIC BE the food of love GET STUFFED at Richer Sounds. Freephone 0500 10 11 12 (24 hours) for your FREE 24 page catalogue/branch list.

RADIO CONTROLLED WATCHES & clocks — phenomenally accurate Junghans, Kundo and Zeon Tech timepieces by Mail Order. Free catalogue. CORNEAL CLOCKS & WATCHES, FREEPOST LS6541B, Leeds, LS8 5YY. Tel: 0113 293 7437 (24hrs 7 days).

EXQUISITE QUALITY reproduction oil paintings at realistic prices. 01242 241110.

MOONSHINE BIBLE — 270 page book covering all aspects of converting vegetables into alcohol. £15 inclusive. Access/Visa/Amex/Switch 01273 203500.

CONFERENCE PRODUCERS — interested in business to business research to write leading edge conference programmes on various sectors. Graduate +2 years minimum commercial experience essential. 18-22K+PR. NEXTEP LTD, Tel No: 0171 680 1001, Fax No: 0171 680 1003.

£300 PER DAY for 2 hours work — Not MLM etc. Recorded message telephone 01325 250529.

WANT YOUR LIFE BACK? Call 01426 955512.

FANTASTIC BUSINESS opportunities. SAE for details to: GOWER PRESS, Department 96/1872, Connies House, Rhymney River Bridge Road, Cardiff CF3 7YZ.

DON'T MISS THIS ONE! 7 wins in 10 plus regular income. It really works. FREE details 01322 403184.

WINDOW USERS EARN immediate extra cash. Phone EQUUS on 0181 477 5012 and leave your name and address.

EARN UP TO £1,000 per month p/time (more full time). Not MLM, No selling, for FREE details telephone 01273 702 629.

REALISTICALLY £1,000 to £5,000 per month — call JEFF on 01993 811419.

PREPARED TO BE AMAZED — genuinely — £500-£5000 pm for starters. Tel 01884 841151.

FINANCIAL PROBLEMS? Need new source of income? Reputable international company needs more UK agents. No fees or selling. UNLIMITED EARNINGS POTENTIAL. Call 01730 269104.

SCHOOL OF Natural Health Sciences. See our advert under EYE LEARN.

PHONES TAPPED? Premises bugged? FINDERS COUNTER SURVEILLANCE 0181 203 1904.

LINK INVESTIGATIONS — the private and commercial INFORMATION AGENCY. Professional, confidential, 0973 842330.

VISA MASTERCARDS — very high limit. Tel: 0115 9123909.

CREDIT PROBLEMS preventing loans, mortgages, credit cards, etc? Credit repair service covers all adverse credit items, only £45. CHILTERN ASSOCIATES, South 01273 604444, North 0161 929 6006.

PICTURE THIS — A company with the facility to place thousands of people who are unemployed, short of money, with no future into guaranteed work, after six weeks training. Sounds ridiculous but it's true — if you are a financial institution, caring individual or any person or companies whose generosity or interest has been awoken by this advert we give you this guarantee. For £1,000.00 per person we guarantee a full-time job with starting salaries up to £10,500.00. Please call MICHAEL on 0181 980 4279 (tel) or 0181 983 1802 (fax).

CONFIDENTIAL MAILING address — interesting range low-profile privacy related services and products. 0181 556 2979 for brochure.

SPEECHWRITING by MITCH MURRAY. See page 31.

BLACKLISTED? The 1996 non-status CREDIT DIRECTORY. Contains over 1000 companies who don't credit check or refuse. Mortgages, loans, credit cards, vehicle finance, etc. Get whatever credit you want guaranteed or your money back. 24 hour postback — £9.99 payable to B. GROVE, 43 Brook Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands.

YOUR HANDWRITING analysed. Details 01229 825030.

BESPOKE POETRY/ speeches. 01323 482295.

ACCOMMODATION ADDRESS
Discreet/confidential
mail/message-holding service.
REGENT STREET
0171 580 4242.

LIMITED COMPANIES: £90. Brochure: FREEFONE 0800 526421.

AFFORDABLE PLANNING appeals Nationwide — 01935 872268

TURN ON ANY WOMAN you desire and have her longing to be in your bed! Details FREECALL 0500 55 55 95 (24 hrs).

PROFESSIONAL LET YOU down? We deal with Professional Negligence — including solicitors. Call ROBERT FESTENSTEIN — Solicitor on 0161 799 1731.

PHONE NUMBERS 07000 560 646.

BANKRUPTCY ASSOCIATION — 01482 658701.

AGRICULTURAL OCCUPANCY conditions removed. FREE initial consultation 01509 264102.

SELF-ASSESSMENT — Ready or Not? A full tax and accountancy service. Open when YOU NEED IT! Initial meeting gratis. Reasonable rates thereafter. Interested? Call ABBEY ACCOUNTANCY on 0181 392 8609.

NEED AN EFFECTIVE CV? Confidential, efficient service provided. 0181 977 5948. Phone or fax.

ACCOMMODATION ADDRESS/ Secretarial. Confidential — exceptional — inexpensive. POSTHASTE, Croydon 0181 688 8144.

OFFSHORE FACILITIES manual. Tel/Fax 01626 52081. Quote: Offshore.

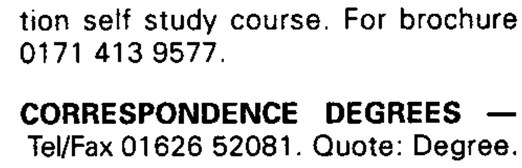
£2 PW IS ALL it costs for our discreet, confidential accommodation address. Also phone/fax services. 0181 343 2316.

LONDON DOCKLAND Address £12 per month. Phone LEN: 0171 729 6184/6185 (10 lines/24 hours), Fax: 0171 739 6596.

OVERCHARGED???? Bank Overdrafts & Mortgages independently checked. Call/Fax WATCHDOG (UK) 01803 616943.

WIN THE LOTTERY! New ingenious system guarantees results. Rush 2x26p stamps for FREE DETAILS to 21st Century, 57 Castle Circus House, 136 Union Street, Torquay TQ2 5QB

Book your series of 6 pre-Christmas ads now for a 10% DISCOUNT



JUKEBOX HIRE for parties. Delivered/collected. Choose from 1700 hits 1950-1996. Prices from £98 also sales. 0181 318 2852.

JAZZ TRIO available for dinner, cocktail, summer parties — 0181 518 1881.

SOUND EMISSIONS from MSL, Disco or Parties, Functions, all tastes. 0171 923 7275, 0181 806 5377.

CRASH DRIVING COURSES — 01983 856137.

MASTER OF BUSINESS Administration self study course. For brochure 0171 413 9577.

CORRESPONDENCE DEGREES — Tel/Fax 01626 52081. Quote: Degree.

LEARN TO DRIVE Courses. HIGHWAY HOLIDAYS (01492) 531517.

START YOUR OWN recession proof Health Business. Home study diploma courses in Natural Medicine. Fees from £10 monthly. 0171 413 9577 for brochure. SCHOOL OF NATURAL HEALTH SCIENCES.

MEMORY — how about an interesting and challenging day improving yours? MIND SKILLS TRAINING 0468 664479.

INTENSIVE DRIVING Courses — Wales. 01248 853970 Brochure.

UNIVERSITY DEGREES — postal, 0161 795 3056.

OUT OF PRINT books found — 0181 642 6051.

FREE BOOKSEARCH SERVICE — 01737 216708.

DRUG LITERATURE — Aphrodisiacs, botany, chemistry, E, mushrooms, magick, 75+ titles. Exotic seeds, testing kits, legal highs and more. HUGE CATALOGUE. A5 SAE: (P), PO Box 2118, Reading, RG1 3YJ, 01734 269869.

WIN £3,000! Amazing new kind of literary competition. Send SAE for The Story Of Little Short Story, A Fairy Tale to BOOKS BOUGHT BOOKSHOP, 357 King's Road, London SW3. This is NOT a short story competition.

LIMITED EDITION diecast models, some road transport vehicles increase 400% within two years. A few 1996 sets available at normal retail price. CLIVE BROWN, 82 Victoria Road, Cambridge CB4 3DU.

REMOVALS AND RUBBISH clearance, 0171 602 3036.

STUFF MOVING — London area. 0181 299 1398.

IRISH REMOVALS — owner driver UK-Ireland WEEKLY. 01232 838111 anytime.

UK-FRANCE-UK — Frequent Service. Tel./Fax 01332 340844.

ANTIQUE REMOVAL Experience — 0171 483 2501.

WANTED — "LOVE ALL", Michael Heath's Guardian cartoons published by Blond and Briggs in 1983. Contact TONY RUSHTON on 0171 437 4017.

AIR-MILES — 01273 689578.

EVER ADVERTISED for cash in EYE NEED? Discreet friendly journalist seeks your story. Box 3106.

YOUNG MAN, 25, seeks business partner for new advertising venture, new opportunity in unexploited market, no competition, some experience in advertising industry or sales preferred. Must be very motivated and able to negotiate at high level, potential multi-million pound market could reach millions of consumers daily in UK alone (not Internet). NO TIMEWASTERS. Box 0608.

EYES 145 — Offers 0171 733 8685.

EYES 404 TO PRESENT — 6 missing. Offers: 01386 833285.

EYES 150+ from 1981-1993, 01205 871182.

EYES 440-902 — some missing. The best offer please. Hamilton area, 01698 428689.

BANK TURNED DOWN your loan application for that special car? Prestigious second user company cars for small and new businesses. From Cavaliers to Porsche to Lexus. Maintenance inclusive and NO PGs. Call us at DUNCTON LEASING on 01798 343850.

HOW SHALL THE MEEK inherit the earth when only the strong survive? RITA CANCONE.

CREDIT REFUSED? Don't know why? We can help. Also CCJs removed £30. SAE for information. MCT SERVICES, PO Box 123, Burnley, Lancashire BB12 8GB.

NEED 3 MONTHS Payslips? Lost them? We can supply identical duplicates. Phone 01625 536456.

CCJs & DEFAULTS legally removed permanently even if not satisfied. Plus Full Credit Secrets Handbook. ACS 0181 688 9550.

CONSULTANT Hypnotherapist — Harley Street. Stress, panic attacks, eating disorders, confidence, sexual problems, smoking etc. Telephone JESSICA RICHARDS 0171 935 0023.

TELEPHONE COUNSELLING — practical, affordable, powerful. Free consultation within 1 hour of your call. Call THE ALEXANDER GROUP's psychologists on 01545-560402 (8am-11pm. 7 days).

SELF/COUPLE AWARENESS, career/vocation profiles, discussion groups, workshops, marriage preparation/evaluation. 0500-900-099.

FOR A FREE SAMPLE of the best coffee you will ever buy contact THE COFFEE SOCIETY, Dept PE11, 93 Greyhound Road, London W6 8NJ. Telephone: 0171 386 5575, Facsimile: 0171 386 5150.

WEEKEND RETREAT needed? Share my rural village cottage. 01572 812237.

WORLDWIDE LOWEST prices allegedly! Tel: 01942 603599/680268. Fax: 01942 670868. Agents ATOL Holders.

LOW COST WORLDWIDE flight specialists. Please call 0171 287 1222 IATA/ATOL.

FLY AN AIRLINER! SIMULATION lease out spare capacity on professional pilot training simulators all around the country. For a virtually real flying experience, or to order a gift voucher, call SIMULATION on 01255-421333.

FLIGHT OPTIONS — telephone booking service. Tel: 01432 851062, Fax: 01432 850722, HENRY ROGERS. ATOL 3793.

THE MOST COMPETITIVE business class fares to the USA come with a FREE night's accommodation for two at a LUXURY country house hotel — only from the FLIGHT WAREHOUSE. Tel: 0117 984 8044 and book with confidence ABTA C8007 ATOL 2792 IATA 91201946.

ACCESS BY SKI-DOO ONLY — Catered skiing chalet in beautiful Sainte Foy. No crowds. Ace skiing. Stunning views. Near Val D'Isère. Sleeps 6. Free brochure 0181 741 8993.

SEACANOE — Award winning "back to nature" adventure tours in Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines. Info@seacanoe.com http://www.seacanoe.com, Tel/Fax: 00 66 76 212252/212172.

MERIBEL - LE YETI, luxury 12 bed private chalet — fully staffed. Tel: 0171 351 2734.

CARIBBEAN LUXURY 2 bed apartment. Reasonable. Details write ELAINE MORGAN, Mount Pleasant, TOBAGO, West Indies.

CUBA — Mr Castro is welcoming tourists to Cuba. Come and join the party with Special Places. Call 01892-661157. ABTA V5412, ATOL 884.

BUKIMA AFRICAN Adventures from 25 days and 30 weeks, departures every month, prices from £450. For brochures and details of video shows phone 0181 451 2446 anytime.

ECONOMIC EXPEDITIONS — Budget overland African expeditions, 5-30 weeks. £360-£1,440. Tel: 0181 995 7707.

ABSOLUTE AFRICA — camping safaris in Africa, 4-29 weeks, 0181 742 0226.

BEAUTIFUL, INDEPENDENT and ADVENTUROUS. Original FLY-DRIVE trips to Namibia & South Africa, plus Botswana, Zimbabwe & Zambia. Call SUNVIL 0181 568 4499. ATOL/AITO.

JOURNEY LATIN AMERICA: Low-cost flights, tailor-made and escorted group tours. ATOL, AITO, ABTA fully bonded. Telephone — TOURS: 0181 747 8315. FLIGHTS: 0181 747 3108.

EXPLORE WORLDWIDE — Our superb new brochure will open your eyes to the adventure of a lifetime. Madagascar, Albania, Japan, South Africa, Iran, Vietnam, Yemen... Plus 160 tours, treks and expeditions in Europe, Middle East, Asia, Africa, Australasia, Americas. Small groups. 1-5 weeks. Tel: 01252 344161 (24 hrs). AITO/ATOL bonded.

OVERLAND CAMPING safaris through Africa, Egypt, Turkey. 4-27 weeks. AFRICAN TRAILS, tel: 0181 742 7724.

THE PHEASANT INN — Bassenthwaite Lake, Nr Cockermouth, Cumbria. Quiet situation between forest and lake. 20 Bedrooms with private facilities. NO television or phones in bedrooms, or self-service breakfasts. Old-fashioned service and THREE comfortable lounges. Ask your friends about us! Tel: 01768 776234, fax: 01768 776002.

SPANISH PYRENEES — 0034 73 252076.

TRUCK AFRICA — intrepid camping expeditions. 3-27 weeks from £400. 0171 731 6142 for brochure.

AFRICAN SAFARIS — 4 to 19 weeks camping adventures. For the best value gamewatching & sightseeing, telephone PHOENIX EXPEDITIONS 01509 881818.

SOUTH AMERICA — Overland expeditions from 19 days to 14 weeks. Tel: 01926 332222.

TRAVEL INSURANCE is a rip off if you buy through travel agents. Buy from the independent experts and save 40%. We provide the most professional service in the business, offering tailor-made policies at unbeatable prices. Call CLUB DIRECT free on 0500 787838.

SEEKING THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE?

African overland expeditions, hotel & camping safaris, mountain treks or South American adventure holidays from 1-24 weeks. ABTA bonded. For our new brochure and information on video evenings, call:

KUMUKA EXPEDITIONS ON 01233 211666

MOUSEHOLE, CORNWALL — idyllic fishing village, waterside inn, great food — AA Rosette restaurant — comfortable en suite rooms with superb sea views. £55 three nights B&B. Tel: Old Coastguard 01736 731222.

STUNNING CUBA! City breaks, tours or flt only. Brochure from INTERCHANGE, Tel: 0181 681 3612, ATOL: 2429.

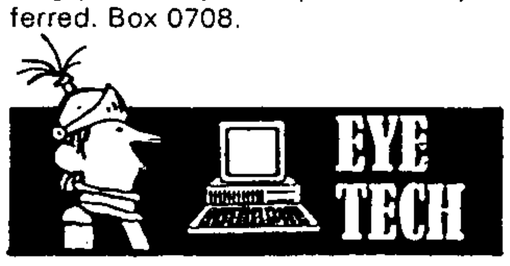
EXPLORE ECUADOR LTD — Don't just visit Ecuador, experience it. POB 11406, London SW2 5ZG.

VISIT VIETNAM — Brochure 0171 727 5299.

GREEK ISLANDS HOPPING, aboard 65' crewed schooner. From £150 pp/pw inc ½ board, watersports. 01473 612230.

MONEY — anything considered. 01274 784 664.

EXCEPTIONAL MANAGER needs cerebral challenge and appreciative boss. I.T. troubleshooting, hatchets, cunning plans a speciality. Scotland preferred. Box 0708.



COMPUTER TROUBLE? Let a genuine PC expert help you with advice, installation, setup, programming and trouble-shooting — and save yourself some big headaches. Call TOBY on 0171-229 3001 for friendly, professional advice.

SECURE TRADING on the Net. Sell your goods or services securely on the World Wide Web on the Intervid secure server. Credit cards accepted. Reach a potential audience of millions at home or export. INTERVID: 0171 828 8218. Fax 0171 233 6233. E-mail info@intervid.co.uk URL:www.intervid.co.uk/intervid

SIBELIUS 7. "This extraordinary computer programme has changed the music world forever"— THE TIMES. The state-of-the-art score-writing and MIDI software used by the Royal Academy of Music, BBC and numerous composers, arrangers, teachers and students. 01223 302765 for full information pack. http://www.acorn.co.uk/developers/sibelius/

CONNECT TO FRANCE'S Minitel — Europewide company searches, leisure, travel, adult and more. 0171 828 8133, http://www.minitel.co.uk

UNIX SPECIALIST — 0181 979 9774.

FAX BROADCASTING reaches 50 or 50,000 within minutes from your fax/PC. Free software. Dealer salesforce customer press marketing etc. Call 07000 FAXMAN (329 626) for help and advice.

EMAIL — No equipment necessary. Your own address £25pa 01886 853450.

ONE-TO-ONE Computer Training — Businesses/Individuals. You premises or ours (London area). Windows 95/3.1; wordprocessing, spreadsheets, email internet. From £15phr. Beginners welcome. 0171 735 3910.

KIND, CARING, sincere, prof male, 30, needs £6,000 in return for lifelong friendship. Box 0407.

NAMISM — Challenging our culture stagnation. Funds required. NAM Consultancy, Information, Money. Box 3908.

EARNEST, DEBT-CRIPPLED student teacher — please help. Midland 81058517, 40-26-32.

WOMAN WITH CAR equals freedom. Sabotaged car write-off. Beloved low-paid job 120mls. HELP. Natwest 03379051, 52-21-30. Bless you.

DESPERATELY NEED £4,000 for Colombian family. Please help. Midland 71304798. Code: 40-44-22.

HELP — Halifax D/15003467-0.

EX-MUSE NEEDS a £6,000 miracle for drama school fees. Thank you.

DESPERATE LADY fraud victim needs £3,000 home repossession. 40-10-22, 41671375.

DESPERATE — please rescue (£4,800), Lloyds 0919229, Sort 30-97-17.

GENUINE MENTALLY SCARRED lady. Desperately needs financial help to rebuild life. Box 0108.

PLEASE HELP! Donations needed to buy a farm with land for sick and abandoned animals. Please hurry — winter coming soon. Nationwide Sort 07-01-16. Account 14796839.

TRAINEE OSTEOPATH seeks generous sponsor for British School of Osteopathy degree course. Any help appreciated. Box 0208.

DISABLED FAMILY of six, desperate, need help of 25,000 to avoid repossession and joint bankruptcy. Natwest 35159499, Sort 501029.

DISABLED, SPINAL TRAUMA as paratrooper, fighting war pension rejection, funds needed. Box 0308.

HELP HOLIDAYS are a registered charity offering all lone parents low-cost holidays from May to October using Haven, Pontins and Butlins sites throughout Britain. For information phone Doncaster on 01302 728791.

YOUNG TALENTED barrister forced into unemployment by unimaginative bank. Please help me pursue my vocation. Need £10,000. Box 4508.

TALENTED ACTING student needs £2000 for fees (01737 812847). Barclays: 00223697, Sort Code 20 29 90.

YOUNG LADY with debts of £43,000 caused by very long and serious illness, urgently needs financial help. Abbey National Account: 07128357, Sort: 090126.

GOOD CLARINET — Please! Tel: 0181 488 9493.

AWARD-WINNING STUDENT needs a laptop computer with CD-ROM or donations to finish university studies. Artwork for benefactor. Dabit Qui Dedit. Box 0408.

CHILDREN EDUCATION AND Poverty. Postgraduate researcher desperately seeks guardian angel. University fees £5,000, maintenance £4,635. Box 0508.

DESPERATE, PLEASE, please help. 11-08-70, 0022966. Thanks.

RESTORATION PROJECT urgently needs £10,000 for success. Midland 40-17-22, 51195557.

PLEASE HELP — crippled mother needs £2,000 to escape abusive drug dealers. Nat West 86642847, 60-04-02.

LONG TERM, young bulimia sufferer, literally sick to death. Desperate to fund professional treatment. Barclays 20-17-19, 20776882. Many thanks.

THE END OF THE WORLD is nigh. Please help me spend a fortune. Box 3208.

HAVE A GANDER! www/steali.co.uk/stu

NEED RESEARCH OR front office experience to complete my IIMR/CFA investment qualification. Salary not important. Please help. Tel: 01202 718889 or Box 3808.

FMI VICTIM — slowly going under. HELP. A/c 2188438, Sort 30-91-87.

FILM MAKER SEEKS modest funding for film about Bosnians. Tel/fax 0171 627 1857.

ANNUAL TRAVEL INSURANCE FROM £46.

With holiday insurance starting from just £46, contact the name you can trust for the best deals on Annual Multi Trip cover. Other policies available – Call for details. For travellers under 65 years only.

GA

General Accident Direct

0800 121 007

Mon – Fri 8am – 8pm,
Sat and Sun 9am – 5pm.

http://www.ga.co.uk/gadirect

FEMALE MUSICIAN, single mother, needs £1,000 towards midi equipment and college fees. *Megathanks.* Lloyds 0439275, 30-96-19.

SINGLE WORKING mum needs £40,000 to buy own home. Any kind strangers with big hearts and a bit of cash to spare? Please help, love and blessings. Barclays a/c 90921513 Sort Code 20-69-85.

COMMITTED HOUSING volunteer financially unstuck. Funds for computer, bills needed. Box 0106.

IMPOVERISHED STUDENT planning trip round Europe — any leftover holiday money gratefully received. Box 0406.

TALENTED ARTIST/WRITER with fantastic track record seeks generous patrons for innovative project. £35,000 needed. 0171 234 0926.

HELP! WOLF at door. Talented writer (f) desperately needs donations or bright ideas. Box 3006.

LADY URGENTLY NEEDS funds to compete in round world yacht race. All donations gratefully received. Publicity if needed. Box 0207.

DONATIONS WELCOME for stray cats and dogs home. Lloyds Account 30-13-53, Account Number 0264759.

MAXWELL PENSION VICTIM. Help! Woolwich Account 01485452, 10-80-02.

DESPERATE, PLEASE help. NatWest 04720237, 60-05-16.

RESEARCH GRADUATE needs £10,000 to kick-start futuristic computer project. Every little counts. Bank 16-10-28, A/c 20133622. Thank you.

WHY PAY MORE for the same service? CHOICES INC HEDI FISHER (Est 1971), 0181 203 4661.

NATURIST JACUZZI/ Sauna events: Wiltshire. Couples. Telephone 01179 502792 (Fridays 9-5).

YOUNG LADIES worldwide seek penpals, friends, lifemates. Free details, photos! HERMES, Box 110660/S, D-10836 Berlin, Germany. Fax 0049 30 2513318.

PERSON TO PERSON — best singles magazine in universe. Free details PLUS Bargain Offer! (Dept PE/6) PO Box 4, Goring-on-Thames, RG8 9DN.

ASIAN/EUROPEAN MARRIAGE introduction arranged. SUMAN MARRIAGE BUREAU. Estd 1972. Telephone 0181 574 4867.

ASIAN/EUROPEAN Introductions Magazine Leicester LE4 5LN, Tel/Fax: 0116 261 0266.

VEGETARIAN MATCHMAKERS — 0181 348 5229.

MAMMAS 'N' PAPPAS — matching mums with men who love kids and family life. 'Now in our 16th year.' 0181 769 6805.

CLUB X — Private contacts, weekly adult parties, exclusive magazine, couples/singles. Tel: 07000 781 652.

HEDONISM PARTIES — decadent, uninhibited, exhibitionist, funloving risque party animals. SAE PO Box 153, Greenford UB6 8LY. 0181 575 2052.

"THIS PICTURE-DATING idea is brilliant" — Capital Radio. Photo-introductions sent to you — successful service for professional people. 0171 839 8884 (day) — 0181 297 1424 (any time).

PLUMP PARTNERS — National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner, ring 01352 715909.

JAPANESE LADIES — loyal, caring, fun, affluent. Also beautiful ladies, from Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia would like to meet you in the UK or Asia for romance/marriage. Send large SAE for photos and profiles: ASIA-UK CLUB, 59/60 Derby Square, Douglas, IOM IM1 3LP.

MARGARET'S SPECIAL PEN Club — make new friends today UK & overseas. SAE dels: PO Box 1, Prestwick, Ayrshire KA9 1RJ. Est. 1986.

NORTH-EAST ENGLAND, busy, lazy, single prof gentleman, 46, seeks lady. Some conversational ability helpful. Box 0808.

RECENTLY DETACHED, attractive but neglected, lady, 43, seeks civilised, intelligent, available gent for friendship/romance. M4 and Thames Valley. Photo pls. Box 0908.

ATTACHED, VOLUPTUOUS stylish lady wltm similar male 35-50 for discreet friendship. Photo appreciated. Box 1008.

SMART, INTELLIGENT, successful Indian professional man (26) into rock, reggae, blues, computers seeks interesting girl with brains and lips for exploring London life. Looks unimportant, soh is. Box 1108.

REDEEMED SIXTIES devil seeks soulmate with bouncy cleavage masking rock'n'roll heart who recalls "Dancing in the Streets", for tender loving and lust in London. Box 1208.

SLIM, YOUTHFUL, fortyish man seeks stylish playful woman, 40-50ish for discrete sensual relationship. Solent. Box 1308.

PRETTY, WITTY, petite lady, 42, divorced seeks father figure SE. No actuaries please. Box 1408.

TYNESIDE — Overworked prof male, 44, seeks similar slim prof female, to go out and have fun with. Box 1508.

THINKING MAN desires thinking woman to share great thoughts and times together. I'm 29, and into music, science, and footie. Box 1608.

SENSUOUSLY DELECTABLE — natural blonde, blue eyes, late 30s (recently unattached), elegant curvaceously tantalising and tactile, business background, seeks very solvent professional/businessman with integrity gsoh caring sensitivity, to enjoy very upmarket wining and dining and maybe more. Aged 35-55. London/Herts area. Genuine replies only please. Photo (exchange) and letter ensures immediate reply. Box 1708.

DARE DEVIL married male, tall, fun loving mid-40s seeks lady for discreet naughty but nice times. West London/Home Counties preferred. Box 1808.

ATTRACTIVE PROFESSIONAL male, 43, married but unfulfilled, seeks interesting lady for friendship, sharing mutual interests and hopefully lots of hugs and kisses. London + Kent area. Box 1908.

ATTRACTIVE ROMANTIC doctor, 38, seeks lingerie loving woman in UK. Box 2008.

HAPPILY DIVORCED 46 year old businessman finds singles scene very boring. Looking for an honest no commitment relationship most probably suit tied lady 35-45. I have GSOH. Enjoy good dinners, good conversation and a lot more. Box 2108.

CIVILISED ATTACHED, luscious lady sought by adventurous, but neglected presentable, professional male, 40s, for discreet, uninhibited liaison. Photo pls. Box 2208.

DAYTIME BLISS — graduate man own flat could entertain lady needing a more sophisticated approach. Utterly discreet, reliable. Write in confidence. Surrey, Kent, South London. Box 2708.

MS RABBIT, Gt Missenden. Didn't receive letter until 19th September. Please write again. Box 2808.

OARSMAN — In the middle of the Race, needs slim Female coxswain 30-40, to steer him to the Theatre, Concerts and Riverside Idylls, photo appreciated. Box 2908.

TRADITIONALLY-MINDED gentleman graduate, caring, considerate, seeks independent but feminine lady (20-35) who'll "love, cherish and obey", or enjoy the consequences. Box 3008.

WORLD ENOUGH AND TIME? Perhaps not for this semi-attached professional woman of 43. She claims (on reasonable grounds) to be sexually attractive, with warmth and intelligence. Is there a man out there with similar qualities? Discreet/reasonably mobile. Box 3108.

PASSIONATE, HANDSOME Oxbridge Graduate, 25, 5'8", seeks fiery princess for true love. Photo assures reply. Box 3308.

SINGLE, GOOD-LOOKING graduate male, 38, living in N. Wales cottage seeks fit female 30-38 into mountain biking and walking weekends. Photo would be nice. Box 3408.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL seeks sensuous older woman for discreet relationship. Photo preferred. Bath/Bristol. Box 3508.

IMAGINATIVE, SENSITIVE graduate, 37, North Yorkshire based with many enthusiasms seeks open-hearted woman to become another of them! Box 3608.

SEMI-ATTACHED company director, 56, n/s, 5'11" seeks a plump or pendulous lady who would like to be spoiled and sensuously massaged in the afternoons by a gentle bear who delights in giving pleasure whilst conversing quietly and with humour. All you need to do is, lie supine or sip the wine, close your eyes and fantasize. West Middx, Bucks, Berks, Surrey preferred. Box 3708.

THE MAN WITH a lust for life should be aware that life may simply want to be friends. RITA CANCONE.

ATTRACTIVE FREE-SPIRITED career girl, 28, now concedes she's looking for Mr Right. You'll be passionate — not passive, clever — not cocky, loving — not lecherous and lots of fun. Box 4108.

DARK BUSHY EYEBROWS that connect makes you dream woman. Tall handsomeish gent awaits. Box 4208.

UNBEARABLE Lightness of Being. Doctor, 29, seeks woman like Sabina. Box 4308.

ARE YOU MR PERFECT? Handsome, successful, intelligent, superman sought for dinner dates with Lois Lane. Photo appreciated. Box 4408.

"MORSE" SOUGHT by interesting, intelligent, independent, happy female (young 40s). E. Midlands. Box 2308.

EXTREMELY DISCERNING eligible goodlooking sporty male 39 yrs wltm — breathtakingly gorgeous stylish athletic career type female 25/35 yrs — genuine opportunity. Photo essential. Box 1207.

KEANU TYPE SEEKS Sandra Bullock version. Photo guarantees. Box 4407.

OFFBEAT MANAGING director seeks bright girlfriend to mix business with pleasure. 0171 792 8825 or Box 3706.

PRIVATE EYE SMALLS
CLASSIFIED LINEAGE ADVERTISEMENTS
6 CARLISLE STREET, LONDON W1V 5RG

£1.75 PER WORD

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR AD

OR FAX THIS FORM WITH YOUR AD: **0171 437 0705**

OR DICTATE YOUR AD WITH CC DETAILS: **0171 439 1151**

OR E-MAIL YOUR AD WITH CC DETAILS: **strobes@cix.compulink.co.uk**

BOX NUMBER (FOR NON-BUSINESS ADVERTISERS ONLY) £8

GENEROUS SERIES DISCOUNTS

5% FOR 3 ADS / 10% FOR 6 ADS / 15% FOR 12 ADS / 20% FOR 26 ADS

THESE PRICES INCLUDE VAT

QUERIES & GENERAL INFORMATION: **0171 439 1141**

NAME, ADDRESS & TEL NO: _____

_____

_____

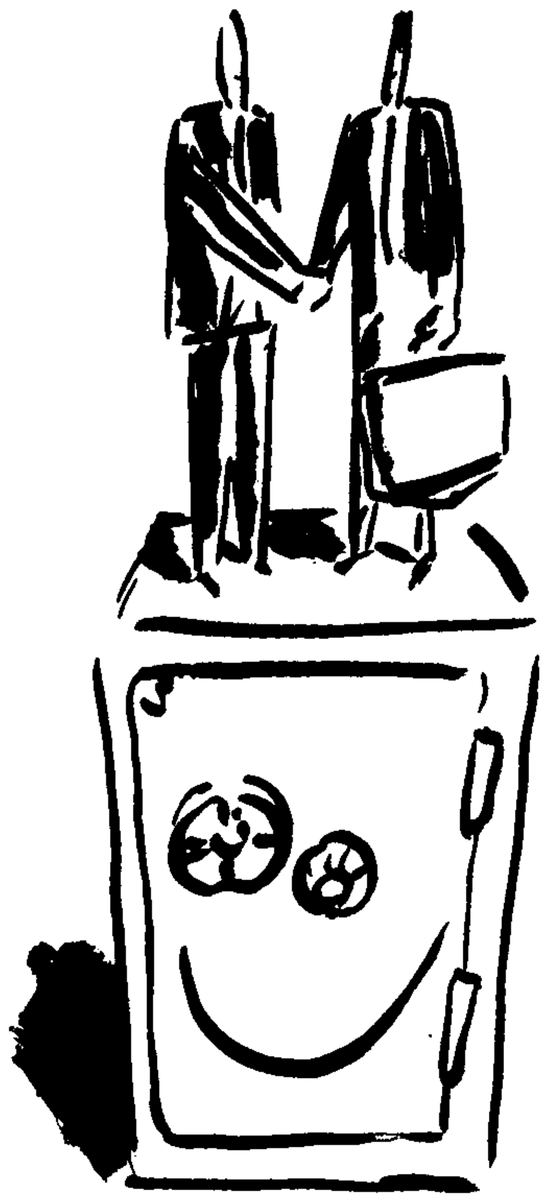
_____

❑ BOX NUMBER REQUIRED

Send your advertisement to arrive at least 10 days before publication date with cheque/postal orders or ACCESS, VISA, SWITCH number. Do not send cash.

NUMBER:

EXPIRY DATE: ISSUE NUMBER (SWITCH):



Off-shore Personal Investment Planning with VIP Service

Are you looking for an off-shore banking partner? In that case contact us regarding accounts in Jyske Bank in Copenhagen, Zürich, or Gibraltar.

Jyske Bank offers all that you should expect of an off-shore bank; security, quality and discretion. And as a bank with Danish roots, we offer you something extra; a professional and friendly service no matter how large your investment.

In Jyske Bank you can build your portfolio with various investment products - from high-interest bearing current accounts with Visa card, to mutual funds and individual securities portfolios.

We trust that you will find, that Jyske Bank is just the partner you have been looking for.

For further information on Personal Investment Advice in Jyske Bank mail or fax the coupon or pay us a visit on Internet: http://www.Jyske-Bank.dk/PBI. You are also welcome to contact Jyske Bank (London), **Freepost LON 5323, London E1 8BR. Freephone: 0 800 378 415.**

This advertisement is approved by Jyske Bank (London) who is regulated by SFA for the conduct of investment business in the UK.

Jyske Bank is Denmark's fourth largest bank and employs 2,600 people in 122 domestic branches and a number of subsidiaries in various European countries. Jyske Bank is a public company quoted on the Copenhagen Stock Exchange with more than 160,000 share holders.

JYSKE BANK

Private Banking the Friendly Way

For further information please fill in the coupon and send it to Jyske Bank (London), 10-12 Alie Street, GB-London E1 8DE, England. tel. +44 171 264 7700, fax: +44 171 264 7717.

Name _____

Address _____

Postal code/City _____ Country _____

Tel. _____ Fax _____

560-248

The investment services undertaken on your behalf (or provided to you) are not covered by the rules and regulations made for the protections of investors in UK. Accounts established in non EC entities are not protected under the Deposit Protection Schemes adopted by the Bank in the UK or Denmark.

THE *Erotic* Print Society's
ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF
BOTTOMS!

"A rude but civilised and highly entertaining portrayal of the posterior from every period of art"

WARNING: *extremely explicit!* Send £10 cheque (to 'EPS'), cash, or Visa/Access details to: **EPS (Dept PEG), PO Box 10645, LONDON SW10 9ZT; Tel 0171-351 6957, Fax 0171-244 8999**

THE *Erotic* Print Society
"...the world's most prolific publishers of antique erotica". The Evening Standard

'SMOKE DOPE & FLY' T-SHIRTS
ONE SIZE (XL) FITS ALL. BLACK PRINT ON LIGHT GREY SHIRTS
ONLY £9.99 + £1.50 P&P (ANY SIZE ORDER)
CHEQS/PO's TO:- 'BCM PROMOTIONS'
FREEPOST SWB10057
TAUNTON, TA3 5BR.
TEL. (01823) 491119 (24 HOURS).
-FOR A FREE BROCHURE.

WE BUY ROLEX
THE BEST DEAL GUARANTEED

£850 MIN. UPTO £8000
CASH PAID INSTANTLY
FOR CURRENT • GMT
SUBMARINER•DAYTONA
DAY-DATE•EXPLORER II

WANTED
ROLEX *Cartier* PATEK
BREITLING HEUER *PIAGET*
& ALL FINE WATCHES,
GOLD OR STEEL, OLD & NEW
DIAMONDS & JEWELLERY

Bassange
Jewellers since 1950
7 HATTON GARDEN
LONDON EC1
TEL: 0171 831 8787
OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY
BRING IN OR SEND REGISTERED POST
BUY • SELL • EXCHANGE • GREAT VALUE

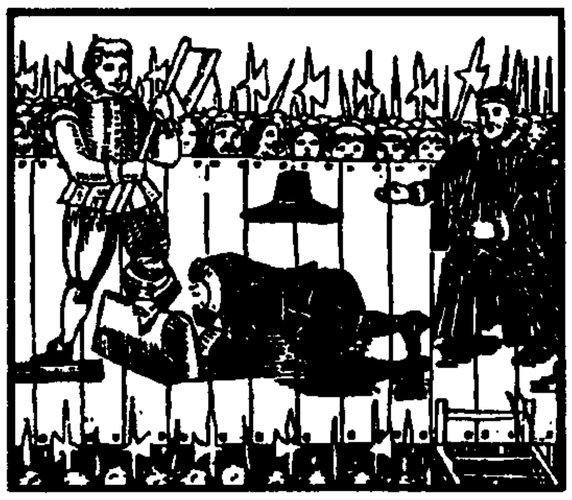
MultiMax
THE BEST SOFTWARE THE BEST SERVICE THE BEST PRICES

Spare Bill Gates the embarrassment of overwhelming riches with these special offers for EYE readers:

Microsoft Office Professional
CD/3.5" £249 + VAT/P&P (£3.50)
Microsoft Dinosaurs £22.48 inc VAT/P&P
Microsoft Ancient Lands £22.48 inc VAT/P&P

MultiMax is one of the UK's leading mail order software companies and a major supplier to the National Council for Educational Technology, Local Education Authorities and schools, as well as the business and domestic markets. We stock 1000s of products and can supply virtually any software at hugely discounted prices. Just call or send for a price list. We pride ourselves on the jargon free service we provide to all our customers, however experienced or inexperienced. Most goods dispatched in 24 hrs.

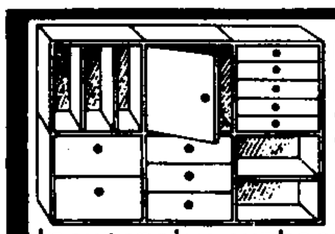
Credit Card Orders (all major credit cards accepted)
Tel: 01652 651 651 Fax: 01652 654568 Mon-Fri 9.00-6.30, Sat 9.30-1.00
By Post: Cheques/PO to MultiMax Ltd, PO Box 28, Brigg DN20 9QH



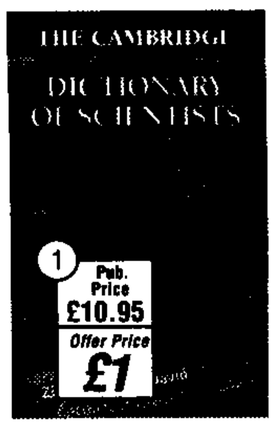
REPUBLIC NOW

White T-shirt – extra large only
£10.99 incl. p&p
Cheque or postal order to
COLDBATH
PO Box 10508, London N22 4FQ

Learn to fly a
HELICOPTER
"PROBABLY THE MOST LIBERATING EXPERIENCE IN THE WORLD"
Call now to book a: available as a gift
Trial Lesson .....(£95 inc vat - briefing + ½hr flight)
Introductory Course .....(£440 inc vat - briefings + 2½hrs flight)
Heli Air Ltd: Training Sales Self Fly Hire
R22 R44 Bell206 Enstrom Hughes 300&500
Nr London: Denham Aerodrome - Jn1a M40, Jn16 M25, Tel. 01895 835899
Nr Birmingham: Wellesbourne Airfield - Jn15 M40, Tel 01789 470476

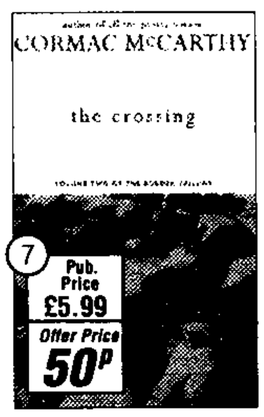


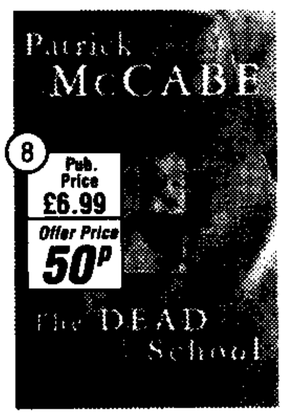
CUBES
SHELVING
TRESTLES
DESKS ETC
Inexpensive cupboards, record units drawers, wardrobes & shelf systems beech, white, black for home or work
Mail-order catalogue or visit us at
CubeStore 58 Pembroke Road W8
081-994 6016 (24hrs) also in Suffolk

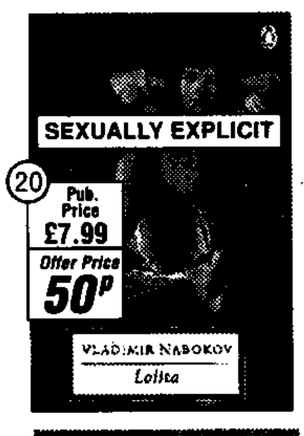


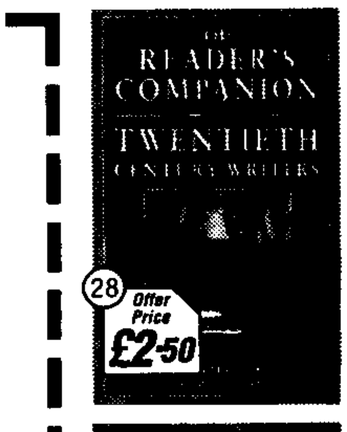
Hooked on books?

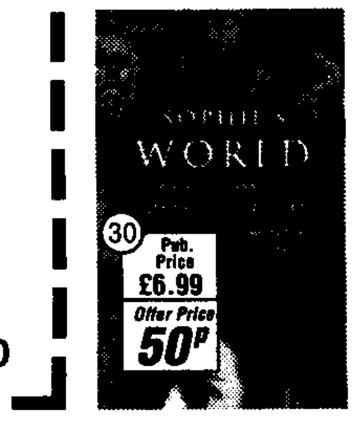
Try QPD











Take advantage of this fantastic offer and become a member of QPD. As a member, here's what you can expect:

Flexibility: All the books are paperback, and thus compact and convenient, and all at a discounted rate.

Quality: An exciting and diverse range of the best quality paperbacks, from popular science and political analysis to the very latest in cult fiction.

Value: We guarantee savings of up to 40% off the publishers' prices, often more, on every book ordered.

Exclusivity: QPD Exclusive Editions are specially selected titles which are offered months before the publishers' paperbacks. Bound in durable matt soft covers, they are identical in size and content to the original hardback editions, and are substantially cheaper. Look out for the ◥ Exclusive symbol.

Topicality: We will send you our 'Review' magazine approximately every two months, to browse at your leisure. As well as the latest and most talked about releases, special emphasis is given to new authors, allowing you the chance to discover today some of the big names of tomorrow.

Simplicity: All we ask of you is that you select at least one book from each 'Review' during your membership. Membership is for a minimum of six months. Remember, every book is discounted.

Convenience: Your books promptly delivered, directly to your door.

DMA

QPD, P.O. Box 199, Swindon, SN3 4PX

QPD
Quality Paperbacks Direct

To: QPD, FREEPOST, Swindon, SN3 4BR

Please accept my application and enrol me into **Quality Paperbacks Direct**, and send me the five introductory books whose numbers I have printed in the boxes provided. I will be charged the special introductory offer prices, plus a total of £2.25 towards postage and packing. If I am not completely satisfied, I will return the books within ten days of receiving them, my membership will be cancelled and I will owe nothing.

As a member, I will receive approximately every two months a FREE QPD magazine as well as other book catalogues from which I agree to buy at least one book. I understand that the minimum length of membership is for 6 QPD magazines. If after this time I wish to cancel, I will do so by giving one month's notice in writing. All books are offered at up to 40% below the publishers' prices (plus postage and packing). I am over 18 years of age. Membership is subject to acceptance. Offer available in the UK only.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

BLOCK LETTERS

Address

Postcode

PLEASE SEND NO MONEY NOW - NO STAMP REQUIRED

QPD® *passionate about books*

EYH00

Published by Pressdram Ltd, 6 Carlisle St, London W1. 0171-437 4017. Printed by East End Offset Ltd, Empson St, London E3 3LT. Distributed by P.E. Distribution, Mortimer Hse, 230/236 Lavender Hill, London SW11. 0171-223 9971